

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL.

OF

## Politics and General Literature.

Vol. II.]

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### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

—705—

#### Politics of Europe.

The Madras Papers brought by Sunday's *Dawk*, (and consequently not noticed in the *JOURNAL* of the succeeding day from its being prepared on Saturday), announced the arrival at that port of the ship *Ajax*, Captain Gillet, from the Cape, giving a List of Passengers and other particulars which will be found in our last sheet.

From having spoken the *ROYAL GEORGE* at sea, the *Ajax* has been enabled to supply the Sister Presidency with English News to the 9th of December, but as she makes no addition to our intelligence—we proceed with our extracts from the English Papers and Publications already in our possession, and begin with the following interesting Letter on the state of Italy under the degrading system of the Austrians:—

*Italy.*—In no part of Italy is there more tyranny in practice than at Modena. When I was there more than a hundred victims were immured *ex secret* on suspicion of being Carbonari, and these too, mark you, men of the first families, reclaiming in vain to be brought to trial and enduring, in the meanwhile every species of moral torture. In Piedmont, also, I found all the prisons overgorged. All the respectable families of the upper and middle class were mourning, the absence of some near connection. There the Priests have acquired power, to which till this hour they were strangers. Every person is commanded by Royal Ordinance to go to mass, and to practise confession at stated periods, at least once every fortnight, otherwise, upon the Priest's complaining of any failure, the culpable Christian is put under the surveillance of the Police, as a disloyal and seditious subject. The sanctity of private life, too, is invaded. A merchant at Genoa informed me, that, having in his library at his country-house, some heretical books. Locke, Voltaire, Rousseau, &c. a friend hinted to him to beware of the intermeddling Priests, and accordingly he took the precaution to apply to the Bishop for a written permission to keep possession of these dangerous works. A few days afterwards, a busy Priest came to look over his library, and, on seeing the heretical authors, told the owner they must be delivered up, until the present political and religious storm was past away, and only desisted from his demand upon the Bishop's licence being produced. You can imagine the miserable state of a country, thus groaning under double misrule—a tyrannical civil power, and a domineering and intolerant priesthood. Such are the blessings conferred by the Holy Alliance!

But it is in Lombardy and the Venetian States where the Austrian sway is most undividedly exercised; and the most strenuous efforts made to check the progress of human improvement. All the schools, established on the Lancasterian method, have been every where suppressed. This was done, too, in the most offensive and public manner, by detachments of *gens d'armes*. Is the British and Foreign School Society aware of this; I recollect that their Annual Report—I think, two years ago, contained strong expressions of satisfaction at the establishment of these schools in the north of Italy—and with great reason, for such was the ardour with which they were encouraged, that subscriptions were voluntarily raised in every town and village to erect schools.—Alas! not one is now allowed. The subscription reading-rooms in Brescia, Verona and other

towns, were ordered to be shut up. A philosophical and literary institution here, the *Ateneo*, was likewise ordered to be shut up. An end was put the publication of a periodical work, *Il Conoscitore*, of which the object was to enlighten the public mind, and to give to all Italians and unity of views and of interests, and its Editors are in prison or wandering exile. A School of Rhetoric and an Agricultural Society, composed of the first noblemen and rich proprietors, have been likewise abolished. In short, every thing has been done to promote darkness and ignorance, in order to rivet the chains by which this fair and fertile land is held in thralldom. Neither have the Fine Arts escaped the blighting influence of the Vandals. An Academy was formed here under Napoleon for painting and sculpture, and funds appropriated for its support. The Austrians have withdrawn two-thirds of these funds, and decline and ruin have followed. This has done, while the taxes have continued the same, or rather been increased, and large remittances are annually made from hence to Vienna. You may remember that the Emperor, in his memorable address to the Professors at Laybach, told them he did not wish for learned men. It would seem neither does he wish for painters or sculptors.

But these things cannot last. The hopes of the friends of freedom and of Italy may not be realized for a season, but the good seed has been sown too widely, and taken root too deeply for its growth to be finally stifled.—*Private Letter in Morn. Chron.*

*The Church.*—In the Archepiscopal Court a short time ago, an English Clergyman of the name of Davis, was found guilty of habitual drunkenness—of obscene conversation—of using profane language, such as saying, “that for five shillings he would ride to hell and face the devil,”—and, lastly, of conniving at, and openly witnessing the adultery of his own wife!—Such were the charges made and proved against Mr. Davis. And what does the reader think was the penalty awarded by the Court for these brutal immoralities? Why, Parson Davis is *suspended* for three years from his official duties, and is not to be reposed without testimonials of good behaviour, from three other clergymen, who may be tipplers and tellers of obscene tales like himself. Let this lenient sentence be compared with the long imprisonment, and the ruinous fines inflicted on the Cartiles, and other persons, for circulating sophisms, a hundred times refuted, against religion, and which could do little harm but for the efficacious zeal of the prosecutors. This may be the law of England, which we have no doubt Sir J. Nichol administered fairly, but it is even-handed justice? Here indeed we see the charity of an established church covering a multitude of sins. Mr. Ambrose Williams, a layman, for a few words offensive to the Durham Clergy, was lately sentenced to fine and imprisonment; and this man, a priest whose life and conversation were a continual outrage to the God he served, merely suffers a temporary suspension of his functions. Had Mr. Davis, instead of holding this office under the patronage of bishops and tythe-mongers, been dependent on those who are courteously called the rabble, would he have been permitted to profane the altar for a single year; and after such guilt, would it have been possible to restore him to the exercise of his functions? Yet we are constantly told that the system which authorises these things is the perfection of human wisdom, and would be injured by any attempt at reform. We regret that we have not room to give the trial.

**Court of Session.**—On Thursday, (Nov. 21,) Joshua H. Mackenzie, Esq. Advocate, presented to the Court of Session his Majesty's letter, appointing him one of the Judges of that Court, in room of the late Lord Kinnedder. After the letter was read, Mr. Mackenzie retired, as Lord Probationer, to the Outer-House, with Lord Alloway, to hear an ordinary action, which he afterwards reported to the First Division of the Court. On Friday, he heard an action in the same Division, which he likewise reported; after which he took the oaths at the table. He was then robed and took his seat on the bench, by the title of Lord Mackenzie.

**A Parisian Breakfast.**—(Extract of a private letter.)—"I wrote you yesterday in rather a hurried way, having had a visit from a Gentleman, to invite me to meet at breakfast a Duke and several other distinguished persons. Our *dejeuné* commenced with oysters, of which every one ate a dozen or a dozen and a half; all drank white wine after them. We had then in succession beefsteaks, chops, kidneys, brains in patties, roast fowls, *sal-lad à volaille*, partridges (red), *aux truffes*, and other game, white Hermitage, and Chablis, Bordeaux (claret), Vin de Grave, Burgundy (of fair kind), ordinaire, Macom, Beaum, and Champ Berlin, red and white Champagne, brandy, tea, coffee, and liqueurs, grapes, pears, melons, pines, apples, walnuts, &c. and lastly, fourteen bowls of punch! Our host was a Cuirassier, and all present had served, except myself, Colonels, Majors, &c.

**The late Mrs. Garrick.**—There was a long extract in a Morning Paper, taken from Lee Lewis's Memoirs, respecting his lady, in which she is represented as the natural daughter of the Earl of Burlington. The story is told with romantic interest, but is wholly fabulous. Signora Violetti, late Mrs. Garrick, was first introduced into the Burlington family by Lady Burlington herself, in the capacity of companion, and she so endeared herself to the noble pair, that they treated her with the affection of parents. The attachment, contrary to the story in question, began on the part of Mr. Garrick, and the following anecdote, which is lightly mentioned by Davies, in his life of the great actor, is a fact well known to the friends of Mr. Garrick at the time:—An elderly lady met Mr. Garrick in the street, and asked him if his heart was engaged, for otherwise he might marry a young lady of beauty, fortune, and virtue. Mr. Garrick, who did not then know Signora Violetti, answered in the negative, and the lady assured him that he should hear from her soon. Many months passed away, and no tidings came. At length he met the old lady again in the Strand; and addressed her, requesting to know why he had not heard from her. She told him that he was mistaken, that he had never seen her before, and that she did not know him. Garrick was not so easily diverted from his purpose, and he told the lady that he should not quit her till she had satisfied his curiosity. She then agreed to go with him into the back parlour of a respectable tradesman near the spot, with whom he had dealings. The lady informed him that her young, beautiful, and affluent friend, had seen him in some heroic part, and was charmed with his acting, conceiving that his own feelings must be congenial with the character which he so ably supported; but that seeing him soon after in *Abel Druggier*, she was convinced that one who represented grovelling meanness and avarice so well, must naturally be equally low-minded, her love was immediately at an end. Garrick was struck with this story, as he was then courting Signora Violetti, and apprehending the possibility of a similar effect, he took care that whenever the Burlington family sent for places, if he was to act a part in low comedy, they should be informed that the boxes had all been taken.

**Evening Paper.**—By the death of Mrs. Garrick, the library of the British Museum will be further enriched by the addition of her husband's valuable collection of old English plays, besides which, the celebrated statue of Shakespeare, by Roubilliac (of which the one over the fire-place in the rotunda of Drury Lane theatre is the cast) will grace the hall of that national establishment. The chair, too, made from Shakespeare's mulberry-tree, will also, it is supposed, be there deposited. It is richly carved, and would, if put up to auction, fetch an enor-

mous price; as would doubtless many other articles of *virtu*, as having once belonged to the "best living commentator" on the works of the Bard of Avon. Amongst these must not be forgotten four originals by Hogarth, of the Election. The fate of these species of saleable property, which were bequeathed to Mrs. Garrick during her life, will shortly be decided by the hammer. The children of Mrs. Garrick, of the Haymarket Theatre, will also, it is said, come in for considerable legacies, in consequence of the decease.—*Morning Paper*.

**Shrews.**—The wives of Albert Durer and Berghem were both shrews, and the former compelled that great genius to the hourly drudgery of his profession merely to gratify her own sordid passion. At length, in despair, Albert ran away from his Tisiphone; she wheedled him back, and not long after he fell a victim to her furious disposition:—he died of a broken heart.—It is told of Berghem's wife that she would never allow that excellent Artist to quit his occupations; and she contrived an odd expedient to detect his indolence. The Artist worked in a room above her; ever and anon she roused him by thumping a long stick against the ceiling, while the obedient Berghem answered by stamping his foot, to satisfy Mrs. Berghem that he was not napping.—*D'Israeli*.

**Unity of Faith.**—Men say they are of the same Religion for quietness' sake: if the matter were well examined, you would scarce find three any where of the same Religion in all points.—*Selden*.

**Dr. Johnson.**—A dull Magistrate gave Johnson a tedious account of his exercising his criminal jurisdiction, the result of which was his having sentenced four convicts to transportation. Johnson, in an agony of impatience to get rid of such a companion, exclaimed, "I heartily wish, Sir, that I were a fish!"

**The Devil and Dr. Faustus.**—Mr. D'Israeli says, "the tradition of the Devil and Dr. Faustus was derived from the odd circumstances in which the Bibles of the first printer, Fust (or Faust) appeared to the world. When he had discovered this new art, and printed off a considerable number of copies of the Bible to imitate those which were commonly sold in manuscript, he undertook the sale of them at Paris. It was his interest to conceal this discovery, and to pass off his printed copies for manuscripts. But as he was enabled to sell his Bibles at 60 crowns, while the other scribes demanded 500, this created universal astonishment; and still more when he produced copies as fast as they were wanted, and even lowered his price. This made a great sensation at Paris. The uniformity of the copies increased the wonder. Informations were given in to the magistrates against him as a magician: his lodgings were searched, and a great number of copies being found, they were seized. The red ink,—and Fust's red ink is peculiarly brilliant,—which embellished his copies, was said to be his blood; and it was solemnly adjudged that he was in league with the Devil! Fust was at length obliged to save himself from a bonfire, to discover his art to the Parliament of Paris, who discharged him from all prosecution in consideration of his useful invention.—*Curiosities of Literature*.

**Argument against Methodism.**—Two young women from Staffordshire visited Dr. Johnson when I was present, to consult him on the subject of Methodism, to which they were inclined. "Come," said he, "you pretty fools, dine with Maxwell and me at the Mitre, and we will talk over that subject." Which they did; and after dinner he took one of them upon his knee; and fondled her for half a hour together.—*Boncell's Life of Johnson*.

**Slander.**—Much inquiry having been made concerning a gentleman who had quitted a company where Dr. Johnson was, and no information being obtained, at last the Doctor observed, "he did not care to speak ill of any man behind his back, but he believed the gentleman was an Attorney!"

**A good King.**—"Charles the Second" (according to Dr. Johnson) "was the best King we have had till the reign of his present Majesty (George III.) except James the Second, who was (he said) a very good King, but unhappily believed that it was necessary for the salvation of the souls of his subjects that they should be Roman Catholics."



Tuesday, April 22, 1823.

—707—

*The "Inquirer."*—A periodical work under this title has been recently established by an association of zealous philanthropists, whose object is to promote every species of amelioration in the condition of society. It embraces among its principal topics, Legislation, the state of the poor, the system of police, and prison-discipline; and its articles are distinguished by considerable information and earnest benevolence. Variety is afforded by means of the biography of individuals whose names are connected with the sacred cause of social improvement, and some lighter subjects, including records of eminent acts of charity, &c. which equally render "honour due" to the dead, and rouse emulation in the living. We wish the work every success.

*Assault.*—On Thursday, Mr. Henry Hill was charged with several acts of outrage committed upon Mr. Isaac Nathan, music-master.—It appeared from the statements of Mr. Nathan and a gentleman named Price, that in September last, the former was walking through Soho-square, when he met the defendant, who assailed him with the grossest abuse, calling him rogue, rascal, scoundrel, &c. Mr. Nathan walked to the house of a musical friend, and was knocking at the door, when the defendant, who had followed, spit in his face, and followed that on by a tremendous blow on the head with a large stick, which brought him to the ground, and but for a stout hat which Mr. Nathan had on, would in all probability have terminated his mortal career. Subsequent to this attack, the defendant repeatedly abused him in the open street. On Monday evening last, the parties met at the West London Theatre, and Mr. Hill taking Mr. Nathan in a seemingly amicable manner by the arm, proposed that they should retire together, and endeavour to come to a satisfactory explanation, so that they might once more be friends. Mr. Nathan consented, but they had not walked many yards, when happening to meet a gentleman, Mr. N. stepped a little aside to let him pass, and at the same moment received a blow over the eye from Mr. Hill, with all the strength he was master of. Mr. Nathan, as soon he could recover from the almost stunning effects of this cowardly attack, knocked the defendant down. He jumped up, and rushing at Mr. Nathan, attempted several times to kick him, but the complainant continued to keep him off until some persons came up and took him away. Mr. N. added, that from these repeated attacks, he did not think his life was safe.—Sir R. Birnie said, he had no wish to pry into the affairs of those who came before him more than was necessary, but he must beg to be made acquainted with the cause of all these acts of outrage.—Mr. Nathan expressed his willingness to state the whole of the facts.—Mr. Hill objected to any such statement, but Sir R. Birnie considered it necessary to the enquiry.—Mr. Nathan said, the defendant had a daughter who possessed very considerable talent, and who was placed under his (Mr. N.'s) tuition at an early age. Some time ago, she was married, and her husband signed fresh articles with the witness, for her continuing for a certain time to be his pupil. Within these few weeks the defendant procured an engagement for his daughter at a low salary, which he prevailed upon her to accept, and told the Manager she was not married, and that she must therefore be announced as Miss Hill. Witness having heard of this, went to the Manager, shewed him the articles signed by her husband, and got him to engage her in her proper name, and at double the amount of salary agreed upon by her father. This it was which had excited the vengeance of Mr. Hill.—Mr. Hill made no answer to this statement, except an assertion that it was not true; and with respect to the assaults, he said Mr. Nathan had taken his revenge on the spot, and he trusted, therefore, that he should be dismissed.—Sir Richard Birnie said, he had heard quite enough to induce him to order that the defendant find good bail to keep the peace.—Mr. Hill was detained until he should find the required sureties.

London, November 18, 1822.—We alluded on Friday to an article in THE STATESMAN, in which Mr. Cobbett attempted to show that a French Army, even of 20,000 men, might March to Madrid, that the Bourbons had no cause to fear a mutiny, and that no other Power could or would interpose to prevent the invasion. That part of the article, in which a character is given of the sol-

diers of the French Army, and which he no doubt meant to apply to the soldiers of every other army, is deserving of more attention than we could bestow on it at the time:—

"But, as to the other point; the danger of mutiny in the French Army, we see the thing in a light wholly different from that in which it appears to be seen by the CHRONICLE. Why should the French army mutiny for such a cause? Does the CHRONICLE think that it is composed of philosophers? That "Liberals" fill its ranks? That its main affection is fixed on the freedom of nations? Oh, sad delusion! It is a band of men, never so much as thinking about the cause of freedom; as ready to run their bayonets thro' the body of a "philosopher" as through that of a priest; sighing for nothing but plunder and the other effects of success; having no attachment but to the General that leads them to victory with the lightest hand, and no real affection for any of God's creatures, except, perchance, for the prostitutes who first or last inflict on them the pains and penalties which they merit from the rest of mankind. "The throne of King Lewis totters!" Just as if this band of men cared any thing about thrones! Their attachment to Napoleon was founded on the plunder he constantly crammed them with. If Louis will give them plunder, they will be equally attached to him; and, if they be not attached to him, the want of plunder is the only cause."

We leave it for those who are better acquainted with soldiers than we are, to say how much there is of truth in the above, and how much of exaggeration. For our own parts we can only say, that we have always looked to soldiers as very suspicious allies of liberty. Wherever armies are regularly employed, they will at last become the masters; and they are never long in finding out the secret of their importance to their employers. We have, therefore, had great satisfaction in contemplating the comparative feebleness of the Spanish army hitherto, and in seeing that the principal reliance was placed on a national militia; and we shall feel corresponding pain, if the wicked efforts of France shall drive the Constitutionalists to rise and keep up a large standing army.

There is a passage in *The Wealth of Nations*, in praise of standing armies which we think has done not a little mischief. The author supposes, that the consciousness of power which they give to Princes, renders them less jealous than they would otherwise be, and disposes them to overlook many little irregularities and excesses on the part of their subjects. This supposes, however, a degree of confidence in the instrument, which Princes must be next to idiots if they really entertained.

For if the people have reason to distrust armies, Princes have still more reason to distrust them. The arts of seduction are well known; and when the occasion is at all favourable, they seldom fail of success. It is indeed much easier to gain them over, than to keep; for as dissipation soon consumes largesses, and few think their merits sufficiently rewarded, there is always a fund of discontent, of which a skilful assailant can easily avail himself.

The following passage from a French work of some authority, affords an exemplification of the way in which an army can be influenced:—

When Bernadotte was sent by the Directory in quality of Minister Plenipotentiary to his Majesty the Emperor, it is notorious that in promenading the streets of Vienna he used to say, and caused to be said to the Austrian soldiers, 'that he had risen since the Revolution from the rank of soldier to that of General.' A phrase of this kind adroitly uttered is almost sure to tell. This Jacobin General, surrounded by Aides-de-Camp, and wearing a richly embroidered dress, led the Hungarian Grenadier, who was standing guard at the gate of the palace, to reflect on his own situation. The latter said frequently to himself, 'Ten years ago Bernadotte was a soldier like myself, and the French Revolution, which has killed King, Queen, and Royal Family, has made Bernadotte a General and an Ambassador. A revolution is a fine thing then for those who wish to get on.'

Without going back to the Roman empire, and its prætorian bands, how often in modern times have soldiers deserted

sides, and ruined those who relied on them! If Cromwell's soldiers did not desert him as the army of James did that misguided Monarch, they caused him perpetual apprehension. We should not have soon done, were we to go into this subject. Russia alone during the last century affords numberless instances of the danger of trusting to soldiers.

With respect to the particular case of France, we are much mistaken if the change introduced by the present Government of nearly confining promotion in the army to the old Noblesse and shutting out the common soldier from all hopes of risur, have not generated much discontent, which on the first favourable opportunity would be sure to manifest itself. The Bourbons have already had some experience of the hold they have of the affections of the soldiery, and if they are wise, they will not make a second trial.

It is more easy to see the danger of standing armies than to guard against it. The Citizens of the United States are happy in having no neighbours to justify the employment of an army, and in thus being secure from military despotism. In Europe we fear pretexts for keeping up armies will seldom be wanting. The people of the more civilized part of it, who are now pretty generally impressed with the folly of conquests, and the absurdity of most of the causes of war, and who know that Sovereigns maintain armies not to defend but to oppress them, will always be impeded in any plans for putting an end to the military mania, so long as Russia remains in a barbarous state.

England and Spain have, however, peculiar advantages from situation; and it would be much if the sacred fire of freedom could be preserved in these two favoured regions.—*Morning Chronicle*.

**India.**—A Gentleman of this country, whose connections in India are of the first rank and consequence, has favored us with the following extract from a letter, dated from Calcutta, 15th of April last and written by a gentleman enjoying the friendship and confidence of the Governor General;—"Interested as I know you to be in India and its affairs, you will have great pleasure in learning the general tranquillity, and consequently the augmented comfort of every corner of this vast Empire. The management of Lord Hastings as he himself believes and hopes, is about to cease. If he has succeeded in ameliorating the condition, as well as promoting the interests of his employers—and there is no well informed person here who doubts the fact—this desirable end has been effected without burdening or embarrassing the Company: for on the close of the last official year, the Governor had cash accumulated in the Treasury beyond what he set out with, more than sufficient to discharge every ostensible addition made to the debt during his administration. But to have employed this fund in the liquidation of the debt, would have been worse than idle; and the distress that would have been entailed upon the community by such an operation, may be judged of from the fact that the Government 6 per Cent. Annuities (interest paid in India only) have recently borne a premium of 20 per cent. Yet when the Marquess of Hastings arrived in India, the same description of stock was purchaseable at a discount of 12 per cent. From these facts it is obvious, that the Governor's account with his employers will stand not amiss; and I may further add, that since the 30th of April, 1814, the close of the official year, the average of the annual supplies from India to England has very nearly quintupled the average of the twenty years proceeding."—*Dunfries Courier*.

**Brighton, Dec 6.**—The weather yesterday was damp, but fine at intervals, until the evening. At 7 o'clock a squall came on from the W. S. W. and raged until half past 9, during which the rain descended in one incessant torrent, and the roar and fury of the wind is not to be described. Considerable alarm was excited by it many parts of the town: several houses were nearly unroofed, and one, not quite finished, five stories high, in Russel-square, was levelled with the ground. The chain pier works sustained further injury, but not to the extent which had

been anticipated. It is really curious, that some of the heavy brick work at the latter place, from the late violence of the tide, has been so reduced in substance, that a stranger would suppose that it had been exposed to such visitations for at least half a century. The solid bricks appear to have been partially dissolved by the foaming water of the ocean. Curiosity has taken many persons to that quarter to witness what we have mentioned to day. Towards half past 9 o'clock the squall moderated, and soon after 10 it had entirely subsided; a fine star-light night followed; and, to-day, the weather, though much cooler than yesterday, has been bright and favourable for the season. Fortunately, there were no shipping in this part of the channel last night, or we might have had many wrecks at this time to have particularized.

**Reform.**—We have the pleasure to find that the decision to request the High Sheriff of Yorkshire to call a county meeting on the subject of parliamentary reform, and the invitation to other counties to follow the example, has had a powerful influence upon the country. Already fifteen or sixteen of the leading counties of England are in motion, and we anticipate that there will on the next meeting of Parliament, be an effort more general and simultaneous in favour of reform than was ever before witnessed. On former occasions it was too much the practice to act in castes. There were the Patrician Reformers at one time, and the Plebeian Reformers at another, but now these distinctions are in a fair way of being merged in the general name of English Reformers. Already the Yorkshire requisition boasts the names of a great number of leading men in the county; and before it is presented it will contain the signatures of several hundred freeholders, which number might, if it was judged necessary, be easily swelled to as many thousands.—*Leeds Mercury*.

**The Greeks.**—Letter from Trieste, of Nov. 5. say, "We are informed from Ancona, that the Pope will not permit the Greeks coming from Russia to embark at that port for the Morea. They are obliged to return to Venice."

Letters from Smyrna inform us, that Canée, capital of the island of Candia, has fallen into the hands of the Greeks. It surrendered by capitulation, and the garrison has been conducted to Smyrna on board a French vessel. A vessel which left this last named town, Oct. 25, saw a French frigate with a part of the garrison enter the port. Another vessel from Alexandria, which met the Egyptian fleet off Candia, confirms this news, and at the same time assures us, that many of the Turkish inhabitants of Canée would not leave the town, declaring they would become Christians. The conquest of Canée will be of much importance, as it is a very strong position.

News from Arta, of October 19, announces that Odysseus with all the Captains of Thessaly, is at Demago, seven leagues from Larissa. The Albanians are again in open rebellion against the Porte; faithful to their character, they unite themselves to the victorious party.

**Frankfort, Nov. 17.**—Letter from Vienna say that the Provisional Government of Greece has thought fit to accede to the proposal of an armistice made by Chourschid Pasha, but on condition that he shall evacuate Thessaly, and that those fortresses in the Morea which have still Turkish garrisons, as well as Arta and Prevesa, shall be immediately given up to the Greeks. When this is done, the Greek Government consents to a suspension of hostilities for six months. It remains to be seen whether Chourschid has powers sufficiently extensive to subscribe to the condition; meantime it is affirmed that he has sent a Tartar to Constantinople to inform the Porte of the state of things. The Pasha has thought it prudent to retreat with the remains of his army towards Macedonia. The defection of the Albanians who were with the Turkish troops and have now joined the Greeks, has given the last blow to Chourschid, who has no means to resume offensive operations unless the Porte sends another army.



# MISCELLANEOUS.

—709—

## Syria.

The following are extracts from the journal of Joseph Wolff, a converted Jew, who went to Syria under the patronage of Henry Drummond, Esq., and John Bayford, Esq. :

Mr. Wolff, when at Cairo (on the 10th of December, 1821), received from Mr. Salt, the English Consul, letters of introduction to Peter Abbott, Esq., the British Consul at St. Jean d'Acre. He arrived there on the 3d of January, 1822, on his way to Mount Lebanon, to practise the Arabic tongue before he entered Jerusalem at Easter, and was introduced to Mr. Abbott and to two young English gentlemen who accompanied him from England as a part of his suite, the one Mr. Andrew Burt, jun., and the other Mr. Jas. M'Michael, as chancellor and secretary. He was very kindly received by these gentlemen, and says, "that his mind was quite relieved since he found himself again with some English gentlemen; and after receiving an assurance from the Consul, Mr. Abbott, that he would kindly take an interest, as well in the cause of the Bible as the Missionary Society," Mr. Abbott introduced Mr. Wolff to an English Jew, with whom he conversed about the Gospel; which Jew afterwards introduced him to the Synagogue. Mr. Abbott, to forward Mr. Wolff's views, and the benevolent intentions of the two worthy gentlemen who sent him out from England, provided a conveyance for him, called a *Bugrat*, to forward him to Mount Lebanon. Mr. Wolff goes on to say, that before he left St. Jean d'Acre, he found the clerks of the Government almost all Christians of that country; and after viewing the spot where Bonaparte encamped with his army near the sea opposite Mount Carmel, he was also kindly introduced by Mr. Abbott to a respectable Jew, named Amzalack, from Gibraltar, residing at St. Jean d'Acre. Several Jews and one of the chief Rabbies from Saphet were present. Mr. Wolff conversed with them in Hebrew and Arabic. Mr. Amzalack presented him with an Hebrew Bible, in order that he might show to the Rabbi of Saphet how well he was versed in the Holy Scriptures, and the Rabbi said he should be glad to see Mr. Wolff, and hoped he would visit him at Saphet. Mr. Wolff proceeded on his journey, and on the 7th of January (after visiting Mount Sinai) set off with Mr. Abbott's drogeman for a convent upon Mount Lebanon with the intention of studying the Syriac dialect of the Arabic language. On the 8th he arrived at Tyre, and at Barut in the evening of the 10th; he there preached to two Rabbies, and met at Barut with his old friend Mr. Burt, jun., who promised to be his correspondent, and forward as much as possible his views with regard to the conversion of the Jews in Mount Lebanon. On the 13th, he read the Gospel and an English hymn, in the company of Messrs. Jollitt, Carne, and Burt. On the 6th of January, the Consul having arrived at Barut he attended service and Mr. Wolff read part of the prophecy of Isaiah in Hebrew. The Bishop of Antonio Syriani called on Mr. Wolff on the 18th of January, and the Consul having kindly prepared letters of introduction for Mr. Wolff to the Prince of Mount Lebanon, he left Barut on the 26th, after receiving an assurance from the French Consul, Monsieur Aybin, as well as from the English Consul, Mr. Abbott, that they would be very happy to promote the cause of the British and Foreign Bible Society. On the 16th of February, Mr. Wolff received letters from Messrs. Abbott, and Burt, from Barut, while he was in the convent at St. Luwiza, where he finished the whole of the prophecy of Isaiah in Hebrew and English, and where he met Monsignor Ignatius Ujari, Bishop at Zahle, near Balbeck, and the Right Rev. Ignatius Serkis (Sergius), General of the whole order of St. Maron, residing in the Maronite convent on Mount Lebanon, who assured him that several Jewish families resided at Dir Alkamir, the capital town upon the top of Mount Lebanon. On the 23d of February Mr. Wolff returned to Barut, and was kindly received by the English Consul. Mr. Wolff says—"I was much surprised not to find my friend Burt there; and upon inquiring where he was gone, was much amused to find that he, hearing I was in great want of clothing, had immediately posted off with his gun and dogs over Mount Carmel to the convent of St. Luwiza, having carried with him some clothes to supply my wants; but not finding me there, he had gone on as far as Antoura, where he heard I had spent some days; but still finding that I had evacuated it, returned in a most dreadful storm of rain to Barut, where I had the pleasure of not only seeing him, but of praying, reading, and conversing on serious topics." Mr. Wolff concludes by saying, that Mr. James M'Michael, the other young gentleman, assistant to Mr. Abbott, the British Consul, wrote him the following letter, which he permitted him to send to England:

"St. Jean d'Acre, March 3, 1822.

"Dear Sir,—Esteeming the members who compose the Society for the distribution of the Holy Scriptures, and reverencing the motives by which they are actuated, I shall think myself truly happy if I can in any way assist their views in this part of the country, where, indeed, the light of the Gospel is but too much needed.

"Begging you to make use of me to forward so desirable an object, and assuring you of my sincerest friendship and consideration,

"I have the honour to be, your's, &c,

"JAMES M'MICHAEL, British Consulate."

Mr. Wolff is expected in England very shortly, when we hope to receive a further and most interesting report from Syria. We have now a Consul appointed for this part of Syria as well as the French; but until Mr. Abbott was sent out in November, 1820, we have never had any one to represent the Government and Levant Company at Barut. We understand that Mr. Abbott expects to establish a considerable factory for the sale of British commerce in those parts, and that the goods, instead of going by a circuitous route, will go direct to St. Jean d'Acre; and a very great source of trade opens itself for our Manchester, Birmingham, and other manufacturers; Barut being about 40 miles from Jerusalem, an immense number of pilgrims go from Morocco and other places to Mecca every year, and large purchases are made of various articles.

## The French Press.

### TRIBUNAL OF CORRECTIONAL POLICE.

#### THE CAUSE OF THE "MIROIR."

M. Michelot, the Editor of the *MIROIR*, was accused of having, by two articles published therein, on the 17th and 28th of August, insulted the person of the King, and outraged the religion of the state.

The first of these articles is entitled "Paris in 5839; a Dream." The author supposes that America is become the centre of civilization, and that Europe is only one vast solitude covered with ruins. He crosses the ocean to visit these remains, the sad evidences of departed greatness, and following the winding course of the Seine, arrives at the ruins of Paris. "Here at every turning, the most learned antiquarian of our party favoured us with a profound dissertation. 'Behold, he exclaimed, 'the site of a magnificent edifice, which was called the *Palais Royals*, because it was the residence of the Monarch. Here you may see what was once the Louvre. The origin of this name is unknown, but, by analogy, I am induced to affirm, that Louvre was only the translation of the Latin word *lupania*—*louverie*, a place for wolves. The Louvre, therefore, was the abode of wild beasts, which the kings kept confined there in great iron cages, to be exhibited on certain days as a spectacle to the people, &c. There,' continued our oracle, 'was the bed of repose, the burying-ground of the good citizens; it was called the *Champs Elisees*.'"

The second article was entitled, "Travelling Shows," and consists principally of an extract of a letter written from Dieppe in the following terms:—"You must remember to have seen at St. Cloud certain tents in which monkeys, learned dogs, and other phenomena, are shown to such persons as feel interested in these matters. Walking on the port the other day with some friends, I proposed that we should enter a tent of this kind to see what animals it contained. We approached one, and heard the crier, trumpet in his hand, calling to the people, and with the voice of a Stentor, announcing that the show would commence immediately, and that it would be still more wonderful than any that had before been exhibited. 'Walk in,' said he, 'Ladies and Gentlemen; you will see the birth of our Saviour, the Doubts of Joseph about the Virgin Mary his wife, the Passion, the Resurrection, &c.' We rushed in and obtained the front seat. The curtain was soon drawn up, and I saw all the family of Punch transformed into Jews, Pharisees, and magicians. The Virgin appeared, and was put to bed and delivered without the pains of childbirth. Joseph, who did not understand this affair, called his spouse some hard names, that mightily pleased the audience, which was chiefly composed of the inhabitants of the port. 'You see,' said a married woman, who sat behind me, 'that the injustice of husbands preceded the birth of the Saviour.' This reflection diverted those who heard it. 'The Passion' followed what we had just seen. The character of Judas was admirable; however, every body seemed to be of opinion that it was common, and might be met with every day. Herod with a doctor's cap on his head, interpreted very badly, and discovered in the least actions of our Saviour sufficient cause for his crucifixion. Pontius Pilate washed his hands of the business with an air the most becoming and indifferent imaginable. The show, according to the announcement, finished with the Resurrection. The spectators retired cracking a thousand jokes upon the puppets changed into Jews and Romans, and I for moment imagined myself carried back to that remote period of which Boileau speaks, when an ignorant troop of strollers represented mysteries on temporary scaffoldings—

"Et sottement zelez en sa simplicité,

"Jouait les saints, la Vierge, et Dieu par piete."

The author concludes by some reflections on the abuse of this kind of spectacle, and expressed a desire to have it abolished.

The KING'S ADVOCATE, after a minute criticism of the above fragments, called for the condemnation of M. Michelot.

M. CHIX N'EST ANGE defended the accused. He contended that the object of the author in the article entitled "Paris in 5839," was merely to show the uncertainty of what was called antiquarian discoveries. The learned Advocate, however, quoted several authors to prove

that his client was correct with respect to the etymology of the word *Louvre*. That person, only, he said, ought to be considered guilty who had brought such an article before a judicial tribunal, and by wishing it to be supposed that the King could be compared with ferocious animals, had really insulted the majesty of the throne. Passing to the second article, M. Chaix d'Est Ange offered to prove that the scandalous spectacle described by the author was really exhibited. He contended that the article was merely a description of what took place, unaccompanied by comments.

After deliberating half an hour, the TRIBUNAL delivered in judgment, that the article entitled "Paris in 5839," contained no offence whatever towards the person of the King, and that the article entitled "Travelling Shows," was only a description of a theatrical representation which took place in the town of Dieppe, which fact was not denied by the public prosecutor; moreover, that the object of the article was not to outrage or turn into ridicule the religion of the state, but rather to show the impropriety and the abuse of theatrical representations of holy mysteries, and to denounce them, if not to authority, at least to public opinion. The complaint was therefore dismissed.

### Law Report.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S COURT, FRIDAY, NOV. 22, 1822.

BLANCHARD V. THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

Some time back a person of the name of Blanchard applied to the Court to grant an order directing that the East India Company should pay over to him the sum of 600l., to enable him to provide for the passage of 60 Lascars to India. The counsel for Mr. Baxter upon that occasion stated, that the Lascars had been engaged to work a vessel from India to England upon the understanding that they were to be shipped to return to their own country at the expense of the owners of the vessel, within three weeks after their arrival here. The vessel reached this country in safety, and the profits of her freightage were deposited in the hands of the East India Company. A dispute existed between Mr. Baxter and Mr. Blanchard respecting the right of ownership to the vessel, and a cause was now pending in the Admiralty Court to decide this question. The East India Company refused to pay any money out of the funds in their possession, either to Mr. Baxter or Mr. Blanchard, until the question respecting the title of ownership should have been determined; in the mean time the Lascars, for want of the money necessary to provide for their passage, were compelled contrary to their inclination and the agreement under which they had been engaged, to remain in this country. Under these circumstances, Mr. Baxter prayed that the Court would direct the East India Company to transfer out of the funds in their hands, the sum of 600l., for the purpose abovementioned.

The Court acceded to the motion.

Mr. HORNE, this morning, informed the Court, that since Mr. Baxter had obtained the order for the transfer of the 600l., he had engaged with the captain of the ship *MELPOMENE* for the passage of the Lascars to India, but he now refused to draw the funds from the East India Company to pay the captain. The *MELPOMENE* was expected to sail instantly, and his client (Mr. Blanchard) was extremely anxious that the Lascars should sail in it, as they were highly dissatisfied at being detained in this country, which they imputed to the instrumentality of Mr. Blanchard, and had actually beset his house in consequence. He therefore moved that the Court would over-rule its former order, and direct that the sum of 600l. should be transferred by the East India Company to Mr. Blanchard, to be appropriated by him to the securing the passage of the Lascars to India.

Mr. BELL, who appeared on the part of the East India Company, said that his clients considered themselves mere stake-holders, and they were willing to dispose of the funds in their hands in any way which the Court might direct.

Mr. ROSE, counsel for Mr. Baxter, admitted that that gentleman did not intend to send the Lascars to India by the *MELPOMENE* as he had at first proposed, but it was his intention to send them home by a ship of his own, which would sail in about a month. In the mean time he would maintain them at his own expense.

The VICE-CHANCELLOR said, it was evident that Mr. Baxter wished to avoid carrying into effect the order which the Court had issued upon his application. He would advise Mr. HORNE's client not to press for an order upon the present occasion, but to pay for the passage of the Lascars by the *MELPOMENE*, and then to apply to the Court for an order, which would enable him to reimburse himself for the money which he had expended.

Mr. HORNE said, he had no doubt his client would act upon the suggestion of his Honour.

### The Mermaid.

To the Editor of the Literary Chronicle.

SIR,

In speaking of this marine phenomenon in a late number of your publication, you express your belief that every professional and every sensible man who had seen the mermaid, was satisfied that it was an imposture, if you excepted Dr. Rees Price, 'who had surprised you very much, by an article which he had written on the subject, in which he considered it genuine. But, sir, I believe you will find this statement to be somewhat incorrect; numbers of medical gentlemen of my acquaintance have carefully examined this curious animal, and every one that I have heard give an opinion on the subject, with a solitary exception,\* has pronounced it to be an entire and genuine production of nature, as far as can be discerned by external investigation. I, too, Mr. Editor, am of the medical profession, and have perused Dr. Price's statement, but find that his remarks are confined to a description of the animal, without attempting an opinion of its being genuine, much less to raise a doubt of its fiction, for which, I believe, no substantial reason has yet been discovered.

It is true that we have read and heard much of the artificial composition of this newly imported syren, and, had these accounts any thing in the shape of facts to bear them out, I should be one of the first to listen to them, being ever open to conviction; but these will be found, for the most part, to be bare assertions without argument, and prejudice without reason. To be sure ninety-nine persons out of every hundred, upon an average, do not, or conceive they dare not, think for themselves in matters of this kind, and each will, at all times, glide down the stream of the popular tide very contentedly. For this large portion of the community, therefore, assertions substituted for reason and facts, may do very well.

The first anti-syrenian who made his debut in the public papers, assures us, that it is a composition, because he inspected it at Batavia, and formed that opinion from such inspection; others who have inspected it in London, with equal discernment, are perhaps equally capable of forming an opinion. But let the learned gentleman speak for himself; let us hear him tell his own story: 'The composition (then, as he styles it, he says) was brought from Japan, where he *delicately* it was manufactured, the lower part being like a real fish, with the head cut off, and replaced by a skeleton, artificially composed and covered, with the arms and skin stripped from off the bust of an old Japanese woman.' Thus, Mr. Editor, according to this and several other subsequent writers, the mermaid now exhibiting in London must be a very great curiosity indeed, when we consider the the discordant materials of which it is composed. For we have the skin stripped from off a bust; a salmon, a monkey, a baboon, an old Japanese woman, and a thousand other extraordinary and incompatible substances, which I do not at the present moment recollect. A wonderful animal these must form certainly, if well put together.

Some of your contemporaries do not pretend that Dr. Price stands alone in his opinion, but admit, 'that though medical men seem in general to regard this creature as a possible production of nature, no naturalist of any ability credits it, after five minutes observation. This (they say) may be perhaps accounted for, by their acquaintance with the parts, of distinct animals, of which, it appears, the mermaid is composed.'

I know not to whom these gentlemen allude, but they have, it would appear, yet to learn that every surgeon is more or less a naturalist. Comparative anatomy (the anatomy of animals compared with that of the human subject) or the laws of animal economy and natural history forming part of the general scheme of his education, whilst every naturalist is not very well versed in these matters.

But, I believe, sir, Mr. Clift, who, from having long had the care of the museum of the late John Hunter, and for the last twenty years been conservator of the museum of the college of Surgeons, and who is or ought to be one of the first naturalists in the kingdom, has affirm-

\* Meeting this gentleman shortly after having carefully examined the mermaid, he assured me it was an imposture; that he had examined it, and could perceive the arms cemented to the body with plaister of Paris; and this being diametrically opposite to the opinion I had formed I took an early opportunity of making a second and more minute examination, when I was immediately convinced that this statement was unfounded.

† This museum was principally collected by the late John Hunter, and purchased by Parliament, for the College of Surgeons, for 20,000l. It contains preparations of almost every known animal, &c.



ed that no external appearance whatever can be discovered to indicate a belief that it is a composition, though he cautiously abstained from pronouncing it genuine, unless he had an opportunity of seeing it opened, an event which I am happy to hear will shortly be allowed to take place.

Of the proprietors of the mermaid I know nothing, and care not three farthings whether it be a real or a fictitious animal. I merely look to the subject as a most important question of natural history, and conceive the present a good opportunity to set it at rest; and should the foregoing observations call for the attention of the profession (who are alone capable of determining the fact), I shall consider the trouble I have taken in writing them not misapplied.

I have various observations to make with respect to the anatomical structure of this animal, and numerous facts to adduce of the existence of mermaids, but I have already made too great an inroad into your time and my own avocations, but will take an early opportunity to furnish you with them. In the mean time, your insertion of this letter in the next number of your excellent journal, will oblige your constant reader.

A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

London, 20th Nov. 1822.

### Early Travellers.—Bontekoe.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir,

In my preceding communications, French and English travellers in the East have passed under review; I now beg leave to introduce to you a Dutch traveller, Mynheer Wilhelm Isbrantz Bontekoe, whose Journal I find translated from the original into French in the *Relations de divers Voyages curieux* of Melchisedec Thevenot.

Mynheer Bontekoe left the Texel Dec. 28, 1618, in the Hoorn, of which he was master. On the 30th he saw Poortlandt (Portland), and the same day passed Pleymayen, which, I suppose, means Plymouth.

Meeting with a gale soon afterwards, and the sea breaking over the vessel, the crew began to roar with terror, exclaiming, "we are going to the bottom;" and though the Master, our traveller, seems to have bestirred himself with wonderful activity for a Dutchman, he could scarcely moderate their apprehensions, though he assured them there was no danger. Calm weather was more efficacious than his exhortations; they had a view of the Cape de Verd Islands, touched at that of Mayo, and crossed the Line, which they had some trouble to do, being hindered by calms and buffeting winds for three weeks. On reaching the Cape of Good Hope, they made proof of a rule, by which, he says, navigators know when they approach the Cape, namely, to observe when the needle of the compass points exactly north and south. They did not land there, but "having called a council," continued their voyage along the Eastern Coast of Africa to Natal. The increasing number of the sick on board obliged them to visit Madagascar, which afforded them nothing; and they proceeded therefore to the Isle of Maskarénas (Bourbon). From thence they proceeded southerly, to gain the Monsoon. The crew soon after took another panic, owing to the steward of the vessel setting some brandy a-light, which running about the vessel, caused them to bellow out "fire! fire!" with such vigour, that poor Bontekoe was frightened out of his wits. The alarm seemed however trivial, and the burning brandy was extinguished; but sometime after, it appeared, that some charcoal had been ignited by it, and in spite of all their efforts, the vessel began to burn. Bontekoe was most alarmed about the gunpowder, and recommended to the merchant (Supercargo, I suppose,) Rol, to put it out of the vessel. Rol would not consent to remove the gunpowder, but quickly removed himself, with some others, into the shallop, and left the rest of the crew and the master to a dreadful fate. The ship blew up with a hundred and nineteen men on board; the writer's account of himself is too curious to be given in any words but his own: "As for me, I Wilhelm Bontekoe, who was master of the vessel, was blown up in the air. I thought I was dead. I raised my hands to heaven, and I said, 'There is one part of the journey thither performed; it is the road I ought to go: Lord! have mercy upon a poor sinner as I am!' I did not lose my presence of mind in the tumble, and felt some presentiment that I might save myself from so strange an accident: I fell back again among the fragments of the ship, which was entirely destroyed. I remained courage in the water. I looked about me, and saw the main-mast floating on one side, and the mizen on the other. I threw myself upon the mainmast, and exclaimed, observing the effect of the explosion, 'Lord! how is it that this vessel is destroyed like Sodom and Gomorrah, &c.' His companions in the boat at length put back and took him in, terribly scorched and bruised. Their condition now was little better than when on board the vessel; they had no provisions, and knew not

where they were. Their subsequent miseries were of a frightful kind. When every resource had failed, and hunger as well as thirst grew to an intolerable pitch, some of the crew insisted upon the youngest individuals being killed to give food to the rest. Bontekoe, whose advice seems to have been on all occasions prudent, dissuaded them from this horrid expedient, telling them that they were not far from land. This promise often repeated lost its force, and he could only procure promise that they would abstain for three days. "I prayed to God," says our traveller, "with all my heart, to look with an eye of pity upon our distress, and to conduct us before that period to land, so that we might not fall into a crime so execrable." Their weakness increased; their thirst and hunger augmented as the time wore away. A fog came on; rain fell; the anxiety of all was intense; at length the mist cleared away, and the quarter-master cried with all his might, "Comrades, land!—Praised be God," says Bontekoe, "he heard our prayers; we made them early in the morning, and we sang a psalm after the prayer; for we had a book of psalms with us, and I was reader most of the time." It proved to be one of the islands in the vicinity of Sumatra. They leaped ashore as well as they could, and ran towards the woods. "For my part," says the writer, "I threw myself upon my knees, kissed the earth for joy, and thanked God for his mercy. The day of our making land was the last which our people had promised to abstain from eating their companions. It appears from this, that God is the best of all pilots, and that he alone conducted our route."

The piety of our traveller sometimes leads him into absurdities. The Malays, with whom they had now to deal, had great advantages from the crew being unarmed. Upon one occasion, when he went ashore, he fell in with a party of these savages, who seemed inclined to accomplish what fire, water, and famine had failed to do. "When we were about half-way," says he, "they began to talk and dispute together, and I believed, from what I knew of their manners, that they were about to assassinate me. My heart throbbed with fear: I had recourse to God, and asked mercy of him, and that he would open my mind, and inspire me with what was proper to be done in this emergency. It seemed that he then inspired me to begin singing; which I did, notwithstanding the extremity I was in; and though I had not much inclination, I struck up a song, which begins, 'Arbres, Ruisseaux,' &c. When they heard me sing, they began to laugh, and opened their mouth, to such a degree, that one might see down their windpipes." I should have surmised, from their grotesque expression of astonishment, that it had been a Dutch air.

A great part of the people were however slaughtered by these cruel savages, and Bontekoe had a narrow escape with the remainder. In his then condition, he knew not what course to take, or what to do. Landing on another island, he withdrew from the company for a time, and betook himself to the summit of a high mountain: "with dejected mind," he says, "I found myself entrusted with the conduct of these people, without ever having been in the East-Indies before, and being deprived of all things necessary to a pilot, even a compass; I thought I could not take a better resolution than to put myself into the hands of God. I fell on my knees, and prayed that, after saving me by means of the birds, which his mercy sent us; after preserving me from the dangers of water, fire, hunger, thirst, and savages, into whose hands I fell, his paternal goodness would yet extend to draw me from my present perils, and open the eyes of my understanding, so that I might find the way home. I prayed from the bottom of my heart, 'Oh, Lord! show me the way, and conduct me; and if thou dost not judge it fit that I should return, suffer some one of our party to be saved, so that it may be known what has happened in our ship.' Having thus spoken with God, I got up to go away, and casting my eyes round, the sky having become clear, I discerned some mountains of a blue colour; whereupon what I formerly heard from Wilhelm Scoten came into my mind. He had remarked, in two or three voyages he made to India, that towards the point of the island of Java there are two high mountains of a blue colour." In short the object is Java, and our traveller, after all his dangers, toils, *battemens de cœur*, and terrors of cannibals, finds himself comfortably seated at the hospitable table of the governor of Batavia, who drank his health out of a golden goblet filled with Spanish wine, and made him commander of the ship *BERGENBOOT*.

The vessel was bound to Ternate. On his way he is regaled by a merchant of Riga, named Walter Hadden, who gave him cows, poultry and black sugar; the forage and food for the beasts, he says was rice, which was not threshed, in this called country, *paddy* (paddy). Having two other vessels in company, they were induced by the advice of Rol, the merchant, to attempt the expulsion of some Sooloo pirates from a little place called Lantoken, which they undertook, nothing doubting of success; but they were soundly beaten by said pirates, and retired with the loss of twenty-five men killed, and a much greater number wounded.

He reaches the Island of Banda, and receives "*deux cens tonneaux*" of cloves, at Baets Jan, where he left Rol, the separation from whom, after so many dangers, brought tears in his eyes. "I pray God," says our traveller, "to have mercy on his soul, and that I may see him in the other world."

Bontekoë seems, Dutchman-like, to have kept a sharp eye to what Sancho Panca calls belly timber; he tells in several places of the cattle and poultry he took on board; ninety head in one place; sixteen hundred poultry, with many geese, in another. On his return to Batavia, he was employed near some isles between Batavia and Bantam, in collecting certain stones from the bottom of the sea. "The Lascars plunge into the water, fasten cords to the stones which they draw into a boat. These stones, which are large, are afterwards cut at Batavia to repair our fort there. This stone is extremely white, whiter than the hard stone of Holland. The fort is in a manner built with these stones, from the level of the water in the ditches, to the summit of the parapet, and makes a very beautiful appearance."

Soon after, he was transferred from the *Bergerboot* to the *Groeningen*, and was no little gainer by the exchange: for whereas there was little to eat or drink on board the former ("*il n'y avoit, comme on dit, n'y à manger, n'y à boire*"); the latter, on the contrary, had just arrived from Europe, and was amply furnished with every thing of that kind. The good cheer in this vessel and others in company proved rather an unfortunate circumstance for the pilot of the *Groeningen*, who got so drunk that he fell asleep, tumbled overboard, and was drowned. The ship was at this time employed in the pepper trade.

Bontekoë was then ordered to join seven other vessels, and to proceed to China, under the orders of Cornelis, "to make themselves masters, if they could, of Macao, or to sail towards the *Piscadore Island*, and try every expedient to establish some trade with the Chinese. They were to rendezvous at the *Manillas*, and be joined by some English vessels that waited to make some attack upon the Spaniards." They set out upon this expedition April 10, 1622.

They proceeded through the Straits of *Balembang*, passed the Island of Banca, those of *Pulo Penang*, *Laur*, *Pulo-Timon*, &c. Standing N. N. E., they reached *Pulo Condore*, which they circumnavigated, and stood along the Coast of *Champy* (*Tchiampa*). In a bay called *Canberin*, they got refreshments in profusion; seventeen head of *bestial*, and many fowls; but the author speaks in terms of regret of a hog that ran away.

The 20th June they joined an English ship, *Le Taureau* (the Bull); and the 22d found themselves before Macao, and forthwith began operations. They disembarked about five hundred men, and drove the *Porta* guese before them. The latter made some sallies, but were easily repulsed, and every thing went on swimmingly, when, unfortunately, their barrels of gunpowder took fire, when the Portuguese pounced upon them, drove them to their boats in confusion, killing a hundred and thirty, and wounding as many, including the commander. They departed to an island south of Macao, having nearly lost another pilot, who tumbled into the sea, but was recovered.

They arrived at the *Piscadore Islands*, which they left for Formosa, "where the Chinese trade in a harbour they call *Tayonvan*" (*Tywan*). In sailing along the Coast of China, and among the islands, he had frequent occasion to observe the defects of the charts then in use. The pirates they met with in these retreats were extremely civil, bringing them "victuals and white sugar-candy." They offered to "follow their standard," and, as a prevailing inducement to accede to their offer, they promised the Dutchmen to get "refreshments" for them in abundance.

Ambassadors from the Chinese now reach them to treat of trade. They came in four small vessels, which they call "*jonques*" (junks); "but," says Bontekoë, "we made no progress; they stuck to nothing, and seemed only anxious to get us from the *Piscadore Islands*." Part of the ships were then dispatched to the river *Chincheo* and the Chinese Coast, to force the inhabitants to trade *vi et armis*; \* and they accordingly burnt seventy junks, great and small, and did other damage to the poor Chinese, not forgetting to stock their own vessels with provisions and live stock of different sorts.

In attacking two villages on the coast, they were resisted with great resolution by the Chinese, who rushed out with onerics so horrible, that "it seemed as if the world was going to be destroyed." They fought with the Dutchmen hand to hand, but were at length routed with great slaughter occasioning only the loss of the barber of the English Bear, one of their ships, who was either killed or taken prisoner. Bontekoë concludes his account of the affair in a very characteristic manner: "We set fire to their junks and village, and returned at night on board with a glorious booty; hogs, goats, fowls, and baggage in abundance. We killed our beasts this night in order that we might eat them the next

day, and repair our strength, wasted by the labour and fatigue of this enterpris-." After this, the story of our traveller is full of the havoc done to junks, and the multitude of good things which they obtained from the people whose property they were destroying. They collected in the course of this piratical proceeding so many prisoners, that they were in alarm about their own safety. Once Bontekoë was awakened, or rather kept awake, by the hubbub they made: and inquiring the cause, learned it was owing to their discussion about a prophecy among them that their country would be conquered by men with red beards: "Now," says our Mynheer, "my beard is of this colour, and I observed they regarded me with more admiration than the others; God knows what there is in it!"

Their negotiation with the *Totock* (*Tsongtoo*) of the province is the cause of a dreadful disaster. The Chinese taking advantage of their fancied security, burn several of their vessels with fire junks and take prisoners the persons who were on shore as deputies. "An execrable treachery," says Bontekoë, "on the part of the Chinese, which God will punish in his own good time."

A council being called, our traveller was despatched to Batavia, to notify to the Government of Java whatfools the Chinese had made of them; and by a singular coincidence he arrived there, and made his notifications on the first of April. He was then employed again on the *stone service*; and on the 6th February 1625, left Batavia for his native country. After passing the Cape of Good Hope they encountered dreadful storms, and were forced to put into Madagascar, and unload part of their cargo. Here they endeavoured to reinforce their supply of eatables, but without much success; the king of the country informed them that the rice had been devoured by "grasshoppers;" "which I could easily believe," says he, "for, while on shore, I found so great a quantity, that they flew all about my face, and almost prevented me from breathing. These insects have wings but while on the ground, they leap like other grasshoppers. The natives catch them, pluck off their wings, and eat them." They invited the Dutchmen to partake of this banquet, but they were contented with the *bestial*: and the King, learning their taste, made them a present of "*quatre bestes à corne*."

Little novelty is found in his succeeding details. The first land he makes in Europe is Ireland, and he enters the port of Kinsale. Here his crew found themselves so comfortable, that he could not get them on board again. He went to the Mayor, and inquired if he could force them to go on board; the latter replied, "No!" "But," says Bontekoë, "when I presented his wife with a piece of fine muslin, he contrived to accomplish the object. He caused it to be announced by sound of trumpet in the town, that if any of the Hollanders who had arrived in the East-India ship owed his host more than 7s., he need not pay the surplus." His men could get no further ere it, and came to the vessel, with a train of hosts and hostesses following, clamouring for money. By this expedient he recovered his men, "except three or four who were engaged with women whom they had married!"

They arrived in Zealand 16th November, "for which," says our devout traveller, "I owe a thousand praises to God, who has extricated me from all the dangers I have written of, during the space of seven years wanting one month."

So much, Mr. Editor, for Mynheer Wilhelm Isbrants Bontekoë, whom we will leave to digest (in both senses) what he has seen and eaten.

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

DAVUS NON CEDIPIUS.

#### LATE EUROPE MARRIAGES.

At Southampton, Benjamin Cowie, Esq. of Purley Lodge, Surrey, to Laura Emily, youngest daughter of the late Wm. Bridges, Esq. of Laverstoke, Hants; at Clapham, Common, Mr. Nathaniel Dando, of Pennsbury, Clapham, and Cheapside, to Caroline, second daughter of the late John Hewitt, Esq. of Clapham, Common; at St. George's Bloomsbury, Henry Robert Goach, Esq. of Southwold, to Miss Waugh.

#### EUROPE DEATH.

In Richmond Place, Edinburgh, on the 18th of November, at the great age of 105 years, Mrs. Agnes Anderson, relict of the late Mr. George M'Kenzie, of Stockbridge. Few persons have enjoyed such a length of happy days in this world, and few have been so well prepared for receiving an ever-during inheritance in Heaven, than this amiable and excellent woman. She died in the most calm and collected manner, retaining the enjoyment of her mental faculties almost to the very last. It is believed she was the oldest inhabitant of Edinburgh, and was born and brought up here, as well as her ancestors for many generations. In 1743, after witnessing the reception of the Pretender at Holyrood House she was struck with a musket ball fired from the Castle, while carrying her eldest son, who bore her head to the grave, and who is now one of our oldest, and we may add, most intelligent and respected citizens.—*Calcutta Mercury*.

\* See an article in our Journal for February 1822, Vol. XIII, p. 103.



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—713—

## Lord Amherst.

Letters have been received from England which mention, that Lord AMHERST has appointed Dr. Able, who had accompanied his Lordship to China, to be his Physician in India: and that his Lordship and suit were not expected to leave England until April.

## Dreadful Mortality at Sea.

The Portuguese ship *CARMO*, Captain Eugene Gonsalves, from Macao via Malacca, we regret to state, lost no less than twenty-two Lascars and six Sepoys, in her passage between the latter place and the Sand Heads. She has, besides, many of her crew sick of the same complaint: which is said to be accompanied with swellings of the lower joints and legs, and which, in a few days, carries off the patient. She has been stopped at Diamond Harbour, we are informed, by order of the Public Authorities; and the Surgeon attached to the Marine Department has been sent down, to examine into the nature and cause of the complaint, and to ascertain the present state of health on board, previous to her being permitted to proceed up to Calcutta.—Europeans and others (not Natives) on board, it is said, have not, in a single case, been attacked with this disease, which has swept away no less than twenty-eight men in so short a passage that between Malacca and Calcutta: and, on enquiring into the reason of this apparently unaccountable occurrence, we have been told, that it is a complaint to which the Natives of Bengal are particularly subject on a long voyage; and particularly, when a large portion of their food, consists of salt-fish, or when they indulge in the daily use of it, some months together. We have noticed the circumstance thus cursorily, for the present; and when we obtain a copy of the Marine Surgeon's Report, we will lay it before our Readers.

## Dum-Dum Theatre.

The lovers of the Drama will perceive by our advertisement sheet, that an additional source of enjoyment is placed within their reach, by the re-opening of that charming little temple of intellectual recreation, the Dum-Dum Theatre. The campaign of the *Corps Dramatique* commences too, with a novelty of so rare an occurrence in India, that the indulgence created by this roasting weather, must yield to an incentive so powerful. We are to have a New Play, written by a Performer. Who can resist such an appeal to their patronage? What, fail to fan the flame of rising genius? No:—but then the distance is so great. True, it is twice the length of the usual ride;—over good roads, in the delightful freshness of the evening air, and this is the amount of the penance you are required to undergo, to patronize merit, and to be lulled for a time by rational and highly intellectual entertainment, into forgetfulness of the feverish anxieties and cares of your daily struggles for independence. Such would be the successful reasoning opposed to the indolent suggestions of our enervated faculties, and Dum-Dum will therefore in spite of the heat and its distance from us, attract on the night of performance all the beauty and fashion, all the Critics Connoisseurs and the Amateurs of the Drama. So at least we hope and *des volente* we shall make one of the crowd.

The THEATRE will open on Friday next, the 25th instant, and the subject of the New Play, which is written expressly for the Dum-Dum Stage, is taken from one of the Novels of "The Mighty Wizard of the North." In getting up this Piece, we understand that particular pains have been bestowed no expence being spared, in the scenery and decorations; and that no exertions have been wanting to render it worthy of public patronage. As an additional inducement to visit the Dum-Dum Theatre on Friday night we may mention, that the

Moon will be at the full on the evening of the representation, to adorn "with silvery light night's tranquil reign" so that the ride home instead of being a set off against the pleasures of the evening will be an additional one.

But there is yet a more potent claim on the liberal patronage of the community,—the profits arising from the representation on Friday next, are to go towards the completion of the New Theatre. We trust an overflowing house will testify the interest taken in the promotion of this object. We must again express our hope, that the house will be crowded to overflowing.

## Obnoxious Epithet.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

I perceive from a letter written by AN INDO-BRITON, and inserted in your JOURNAL of this morning, that the Editor of the ORIENTAL MAGAZINE has designated us, Asiatics, by the term Half-east. Now, Sir, it appears to me, that the use of this word can be ascribed to no good motives, nor can it, by any means, be honourable to the writer who employs it, in the manner the Reviewer has done. The tendency of such conduct, can be to promote only mischief. It was once, therefore, very prudently solicited of Government, to prohibit the use of the obnoxious term in their public records; and the request was graciously complied with. The Editor of the MAGAZINE, who is desirous, it appears, of being thought a very loyal subject, ought to have known that what the Government has disapproved of, could not, with any propriety, be used by him.

I am, Sir, &c.

April 15, 1823.

INDICUS.

## Chowringhee Theatricals.

As our Monday's Number is always sent to Press on Saturday evening, our rather long Notice of Chowringhee Theatricals contained in it, was necessarily written in haste; owing to which, we omitted to bestow the well-earned meed of praise on the representative of the character of *Mrs. Nicely*; though when we commenced writing the article, the successful delineation of this character was fresh in our recollection. We must now endeavour to supply this rather culpable, though quite unintentional, omission.

Although by no means mainly important to the plot of the Piece, the character of that tidy old house-wife, *Mrs. Nicely*, is interesting; because it is the most natural one in the whole Play: and it certainly could not have been more naturally represented, than it was on Friday night, The gentleman who performed it, was never more happy, in any of his efforts, than in this;—he was in dress, in manner, in gait, the very *fac simile*, as it were, of the Portrait drawn by the author. We cannot indeed say, that he excelled on Friday night the performances of former occasions, because his success in the delineation of similar characters has been uniformly brilliant; but we do certainly think the disguise was more perfect in this instance, than on any other that we have witnessed; and that the character was better dressed, than some in which we have seen him. One of the strongest recommendations to our taste, however, which this bearded representative of antiquated dames possesses, is, his easy confidence. He is always perfectly at home in his part, never studying where, or how, he is to stand; or how he is to express, what he has to say; and like the representative of *Ferment*, he has a sort of off hand manner of getting through the business of the night, that completely hides the delusion of the scene, and places before us its realities;—a natural ease, in short, that is the peculiar charm of genuine dramatic talent.

We should also have stated in our Article, on the Play of Friday last, that the characters of the Servants, *Peter* and *Timothy*, were remarkably well sustained.

**Thanks to Captain Biden.**

To Captain Christopher Biden, Commanding the Honorable Company's Ship ROYAL GEORGE.

MY DEAR SIR,

Kedgerie, April 15, 1823.

Before we separate our respective avocations, allow me to acquit myself of one of the last (though not least satisfactory) parts of my duty, in communicating the sentiments which prevail towards you, in the breast of every individual under my command.

There can be but one feeling among us—that of gratitude; and I hereby, in the name of the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates, composing the Detachment of Recruits on board the ROYAL GEORGE, beg to offer our sincere and unqualified thanks, for your unremitted attention to our comfort and accommodation from the period of our embarkation to the present moment.

The Women likewise of the Detachment, seventeen in number, with their Children, have come forward, begging me to express, if possible, their feelings of gratitude for your attention—not only to their comfort in every possible shape, but for luxuries and superfluities which were not unfrequently distributed with a liberal hand.

We all pray, that you may live long and happy; and, (in the speedy acquirement of a princely fortune,) that you may meet the reward of a strict and unwearied attention to your duty, and the interests of our Honorable Employers, and of your liberality and kindness to such of their Military Servants, as may have the good fortune to be consigned to India under your charge.

I remain, my dear Sir, your's most faithfully and sincerely,

H. SANDYS, Commanding the Detachment of the  
H. C.'s Recruits on board the ROYAL GEORGE.

**CAPTAIN BIDEN'S REPLY.**

To Captain Sandys, &c. &c.

MY DEAR SIR,

Calcutta, April 18, 1823.

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your very handsome letter, conveying the thanks of the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, Privates, and the Women composing the detachments of the Honorable Company's Troops on board the ROYAL GEORGE, for some little comforts and attentions received during the passage: these are viewed too partially, and were frequently claimed by the calls of humanity and fellow-feeling.

I beg you will assure every one of the detachment under your command, how much I value these flattering sentiments of their regard; and that they will ever have my warmest wishes for their health and prosperity: their good conduct has been chiefly owing to the unanimity which so happily prevailed throughout the passage.

For yourself and family, accept, My dear Sir, every assurance of my esteem; and that you may soon be enabled to return to old England, and enjoy many happy years there, is, believe me, the heartfelt desire of,

Your sincere and faithful friend,

CHRISTOPHER BIDEN.

**CALCUTTA BAZAR RATES, APRIL 18, 1823.**

	BUY	SELL
Remittable Loans, .....	Rs. 30 0	29 0
Unremittable ditto, .....	3 12	8 4
Bills of Exchange on the Court of Directors, for 18 Months, dated 30th of April 1823, .....	25 0	24 0
Bank Shares, .....	6200 0	6100 0
Spanish Dollars, per 100, .....	207 0	206 8
Notes of Good Houses, for 6 Months, bearing Interest, at 6 per cent.		
Government Bills, Discounted, .....	at 3-8 per cent	
Loans on Deposit of Company's Paper, for 1 to 3 months, at 3-8 per cent		

**Hebrew and Arabic Languages.**

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

The good-humoured discussions in the JOHN BULL, (and pleasant it is to find any thing temperate and kindly there,) bring to mind the extraordinary attempt of Dr. Adam Clarke to prove, some dozen years ago, that a *Monkey*, and not a *Serpent*, was the agent employed in the Fall of Man. This position was rebutted by Mr. John Bellamy in his work called the *Opinion*, or the *Theology of the Serpent* (showing, "from the original language, that, in every age of the Jewish and Christian Churches, a *Monkey* was never understood to be the agent employed to bring about the Fall of Man.")—and by Mr. Daniel Guildford Wait in his pamphlet called a *Defence of a Critique on the Hebrew word NACHASH*, in which it is proved from the Hebrew text, and the oriental languages, that a *SERPENT*, not an *AFE*, deceived *EVE*. More on the same subject is to be found in the *Classical Journals* of the time.

NACHASH, or NAGA, or SNAKE (Serpent) all mean the same thing. The former of these, is the Hebrew, and certainly, as is stated by Dr. Tytler in the BULL of the 15th instant, that is the most ancient, pure, and uncorrupt of all languages. Dr. A. Clarke does not admit (or did not) that the Hebrew is a complete language, but says, indeed, that the whole of it is lost except what is in the Bible,—and is of opinion, that the Arabic is the most comprehensive language in the world. Mr. Bellamy contends, on the other hand, that the Hebrew is so complete a language, that it is allowed, by those who understand it, to be the most complete and comprehensive language, in the world. He says that the English language is capable of enabling us to express our thoughts with as much elegance, power, and precision, as any of the European languages; but that it certainly is not possible, in the English language, to clothe our ideas in so rich a dress, attended with such energy of expression, striking imagery, sublimity and simplicity in all its variety of application, as is to be done in the Hebrew.

There can be no comparison, Mr. B. urges, as to infinitude of expression, between the Hebrew and Arabic languages: the former having thirteen vowels for the variation of sense, and the certainty of application,—besides many pauses for giving force to words and sentences; while the latter has properly but two vowels, for *Fatha* and *Casra* are the same (being known to differ in pronunciation only by being placed above or under the consonant) and the other vowel is *Damma* which forms the Diphthong *ou*. Then the assertion that the Hebrew language is lost, except what is in the Bible, is not supported by any proof. It is no more lost than the Arabic, for pure Arabic is no more spoken either in Arabia or in Turkey, than is pure Hebrew among the Jews;—but the Hebrew writers are far more numerous, and their writings still extant far more voluminous, than those of the ancient Greeks and Romans. Dr. A. Clarke does not specifically assert that the Hebrew was derived from the Arabic; but says that either the Arabic was derived from the Hebrew, or the Hebrew from the Arabic. He applies however, to the Arabic for an illustration of the Hebrew language,—and therefore supposes, either that the Arabic was the original language, or that the Hebrew is defective. This error, of supposing the Arabic to have been more ancient than the Hebrew, is not new; but then the cause has originated in not having a sufficient knowledge of the Hebrew, which has not been made a necessary part of collegiate education.

The Jews, from the dispersion to the present day, remain a people, and the Hebrew is a distinct language, in which the Jews write and converse. So far the Hebrew is a living language (though the Jews are in a state of non-existence as a nation) and is no more lost than it was during the captivity in Babylon. Almost all the ancient profane writers give testimony to the priority and descent of the Hebrew language. In the 11th verse of the 10th Chapter of Genesis, two thousand years after the fall, it is expressly said—"and the beginning of his



Tuesday, April 23. 1823.

—715—

*kingdom was Babel.*—This was at the commencement of the Babylonish or Chaldean empire, and the first verse of the next chapter says—“*and the whole earth was of one language and of one speech.*” This *one language and one speech* was the ancient Chaldean Hebrew, so named from EBER, (the great grandson of SHAM) who was the supreme patriarchal head at the time when the whole EARTH was divided, or separated into distinct patriarchal governments among the numerous descendants of NOAH;—and it descended pure from the beginning of the kingdom of Babel, and continued to the end of that monarchy. Hence it is undeniably evident, that the Hebrew was the language spoken by Noah and by the Antediluvian patriarchs:—consequently that in which God spoke to Adam, before the Arabic or any other language was in existence. It would, perhaps, be impossible to show at what period of the world the Arabic language took its rise; we can only refer to that period when what is called the confusion of tongues took place; but prior to that epoch there was but *one language*, and that was unquestionably, the Hebrew.

These quotations prove the truth (though I do not know that *Gocul Nauth* has questioned it) of Dr. Tytler's position respecting the Hebrew language; and if any doubt be entertained as to whether NACHASH in the Hebrew (or NAKUS according to Dr. T) do really imply a Snake or Serpent, the proof of this may form the subject of another communication; but I seldom see the JOHN BULL.

April 18, 1823.

U. V. W.

### Method of Propelling Boats.

SIR, To the Editor of the Journal.

I observe in your JOURNAL of the 1st instant, a letter without date, signed O —, noticing my recommendation of the Screw for the purpose of Propelling Steam Boats, in which the writer states “with a view to save trouble to such of your Readers as may be inclined to make experiments, I send you an account of a kind of screw described by Mr. Whytock in 1820, and invented by him 5 or 6 years before.”

Next we have Mr. Whytock's experiment with an insignificant Helix, composed of poles, pitch and twine, which entirely failed from the weakness of the screw as O —, states, but unless O —, intends to make April Fools of the Public by giving them an awkward, absurd, and impracticable plan, seemingly conceived by a man who had but a vague and imperfect idea of the subject, I say unless this is O —'s intention, by recording Whytock's failure; he had better have adhered to the old adage “*Age quod tuum est, cura res tuas.*”

The character of any man as a projector, exposes him to many failures, more especially if he is neither Philosopher nor Mechanic but merely resting upon chance for success, as this appears to have been the case with Whytock, in conducting his experiments, any person trying the qualities of a Helix upon a similar construction will also experience a failure.

The way of tracing a Helix upon a cylinder is well known to be this:—take the height or length of a cylinder for one leg of a right angled triangle, and make the other leg equal to as many times the circumference of the base of the cylinder as the screw is to make convolutions about the cylinder itself, then if this triangle be enveloped about the surface of the solid, the two legs being made, the one to be parallel to the axis of the cylinder the other to fold upon the circumference of its base, the hypothenuse will form the contour of the screw.

When this method is adopted, and the spirals traced out upon a cylinder of at least 12 inches diameter in such manner as to ensure a certain number of revolutions in a given time, the spirals striking the fluid in as near as possible the angle that is made by an oar, so far the experiment will be attended with success. These important considerations still remain; the best method of fixing and working the screw; its exact length for boats of different burdens where two or more screws can be used, &c. For experiments a wooden cylinder with copper spirals well secured, will answer, or even sheet iron, though more difficult to work, into the proper shape.

The late celebrated Mr. Watt, allowed Mr. Baines the exclusive credit of having first proposed the screw for propelling vessels tho' long before invented by the French who borrowed their ideas from the Chinese.

I defy O — to prove by any written evidence whatever, that Captain Savary was the original inventor of Paddle Wheels for Steam Boats; as well as for him to invalidate the fact of Mr. B. being the inventor of such as are now attached to these vessels.

Your obedient Servant,

Lucknow, April 10, 1823.

MECHANICUS.

### Effects of Furious Driving.

SIR, To the Editor of the Journal.

The injurious practice of furious driving in this populous city, has been so often reprobated in the Public Prints, that I cannot but feel surprised that Individuals should pay so little regard to the voice of the multitude, or to the groans of the unfortunate, who occasionally fall a sacrifice to their imprudence.

I have just received a letter from a respectable Native, in which he relates a recent accident of the kind; the circumstance in itself is distressing, and ought to prove a warning to inconsiderate youth; but the Letter in question is so elegant and genuine a production, that I am tempted to lay it before you as a specimen of Eastern Literature;—

MY WORTHY SIR,

Permit me to request that you would by means of some of the Newspapers, bring to the notice of the Public, a circumstance of driving Buggy in a careless manner, which is most dangerous to the bystander of the Public road.

On Sunday evening, while I was passing by Chunam gully, I observed two Gentlemen driving their Buggy in a great velocity, without having a Syce to clear the passage, as it is generally a custom in this country—and another evil also very injurious in its propensity among some Europeans, is that of brandishing their whip on the back of poor Natives who are passing by the way.

I cannot without feeling relate a most melancholy incident, which happened in the same instance. While these two Gentlemen were driving their Buggy in the same manner, a poor Native, whose fate I exceedingly lament, fell unexpectedly under the wheel of it, and no sooner they saw him sprawling on the ground they whipt their horse and away they went. Many that ran after them, but in vain—and immediately a concourse of people assembled at the spot to witness this unhappy wretch. I was waiting for an opportunity to see him, as I was incapable of rushing through the crowd. Not before a quarter of an hour, I had seen—but to express with what considerable motion the poor man was struggling, is beyond my power to ascribe; I shall however, mention where he was hurt. The wheel of it passed over his leg which lacerated the flesh, and no doubt disjoined his heel, notwithstanding abundant of blood flowed from it, which made the poor man appear quite pale. I think, in my opinion, as to his living I greatly hesitate. You shall oblige me by sending this account to some of your friends in the Newspaper business, so as to prevent such recurrence in future.

Your's obediently,

• • • • •

I can hardly agree with this worthy individual, that the unfortunate man's heel could have been disjoined, having never heard of so extraordinary a joint, or that the poor fellow's life should be endangered from the wheel of a Buggy passing over his ankle, which I suppose the writer means to imply; nevertheless, the conduct of the persons who were driving, is highly reprehensible; and I hope ere long to see a fine imposed by our worthy Magistrates, for a practice which has already proved fatal to so many of the poor inhabitants of this country.

I am, Sir, Your's obediently,

THE HERMIT IN INDIA.

# Aerolites.

Sir, To the Editor of the Journal.

A Writer in your JOURNAL, has taken wonderful pains to shew, that the Aerolites, which fell at Futtepoore, were shot from the Volcano in Java, and has deduced this from the circumstance, that when this phenomenon occurred at Futtepoore, the Volcano in Java was in a state of eruption, at the same time.

I have no doubt, but that the learned Gentleman is prepared to demonstrate, the force with which these Aerolites were projected from the Volcano; the direction, elevation, and motion, they received from the projectile action; how they overcame the laws of gravity so as to be cast a distance of more than 2500 geographical miles, from the place of projection, over the ocean, mountains, and the convexity of the earth; and through a variety of currents of air; and lastly, to shew the time they took to travel from the Volcano to Futtepoore.

Under a persuasion, that the learned Gentleman, will favour the Public with the result of his calculations,

I remain, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

Calcutta, April 18, 1823.

COLUMB.

## Selections.

Madras, April 8, 1823.—The homeward-bound Ship DAVID SCOTT, Captain Bunyon, continued her voyage on Sunday evening.

Passengers.—Mr. Scot, Mrs. E. McCabe, Peter Cherry, Esq. Senior Merchant; Lieut. Bagshaw, 89th Regt.; and Master W. Scot.

Madras Courier Extraordinary, Monday Morning 5 o'Clock A. M.—April 7, 1823.—By the Ship AJAX, which arrived yesterday morning from the Cape of Good Hope, we have received intelligence of sufficient importance to induce us to send out a short Extra, notwithstanding to-morrow is our regular day of publication.

We deeply regret to commence by announcing the death of the Honorable Wm. Thackeray, Esq. he died at sea on the 11th of January. The NANCY reached the Cape on the 14th of that month.

The long expected Ship WOODBOND arrived at the Cape on the 23d of January and continued her passage on the 27th, all well. Our account of her having put back is correct—she finally quitted the English Shores on the 8th of November. Her Passengers are Mrs. Udney, and three Daughters, Mrs. M'Leod, Mrs. Warner, two Misses Scott, Misses Palmer, Marshall, Creighton, Law, Birch, Matherson, Godfrey and Loveday;—Capt. Fenwick, Walpole, and Fleming, and Lieut. Ingram, N. I.; Ensign Childers, 41st Regt.;—Rev. M. Thompson;—Messrs. Cassamajor and Hooper, Madras Civil Service;—Messrs. Scott, Cole, Hume, Loveday, and Wilkerts, Cadet;—Assist. Surgeons Wilson and Ricks, H. C. S. Mr. Clare, and 13 Servants.

The AJAX spoke a few days ago with the Honorable Company's Ship ROYAL GEORGE, from the Downs the 10th of December. We have been favored by a friend who never fails us, with a London COURIER of the 9th of that month and with extracts from other Papers of that month. The intelligence they communicate is most important. The Congress of Verona has terminated, as was predicted, War against Spain has been determined on by the four great Continental Powers! According to some accounts this most UNHOLY war had commenced by the defeat of a large French Army. England has remonstrated against the War but with no effect. The COURIER concludes a long article on this subject by saying "Should the voice and warnings of England not be listened to, she will at least be able to assert, that she has not furnished one spark to rekindle the flames of War; and that she will perceive a strict and sincere neutrality." We need not say that our every wish is that the Allies may be signally and disgracefully defeated.

Madras, April 5.—Civil Appointment.—Mr. J. C. Morris, to be Deputy Telugoo Translator to the Government.

Ceylon Gazette, March 22, 1823.—We comply with pleasure with the request of a correspondent at Kandy, in inserting the following account of the Festivities at that Station on St. Patrick's day.

Monday the 17th March, the Anniversary of Erin's tutelary Saint was observed at Kandy, by the sons of the Emerald Isle, in the true spirit of Irish hospitality.

Long before the "Harbinger's Note," the approach of day was proclaimed by the Band of the 16th Regiment and the National Air of "St. Patrick's Day in the morning," was heard in every street and lane of the "City of Kings."

The Brethren of the Lodge of Tanrobane, having decided on laying the first Stone of their Masonic Hall on this Festival aroused to work, by the musical summons, were shortly after gun fire, perceived moving in Procession, headed by the Band playing the march.

"Come let us prepare"

and on reaching the site, whereon they purposed to build, having thrice viewed it, Masonically, the Prayer and Benediction were solemnly and impressively pronounced over the Stone, and the Ceremony of scattering and pining out the Corn, Wine, and Oil, performed by three Brethren of the Order of Knights Templar in due Costume and armed; Sacred Hymns being played at intervals, and God save the King at the conclusion.

The Brethren having returned in Order and closed their Lodge, a very neat Dejeuné attracted the attention of the early risers and the party joyously partook thereof.

No care for the morrow seem'd to hang o'er the hour

No chagrin nor regret:—but for Praties Gaillors

For the hope to revisit the Land of his Sire

Cheer'd each, as he thought of the Whiskey and Lyre.

The Staff Mess Room and an adjacent quarter were fitted up in the Cingalese style of ornament for the Ball and Supper—at the East and West entrances of the former, where two Transparencies: one representing a Crown and Harp, with a distant view of a Commercial Port and City, the other "The Star of St. Patrick."

A numerous party of Ladies and Gentlemen having assembled at an early hour of the evening, dancing commenced at 9 o'clock and continued till 12, when a Supper was announced which in truth, did great credit to the Stewards and Providor.

The toasts enumerated here below were given, and enthusiastically drank, and the scene was much enlivened by the melodies of an officer of acknowledged celebrity, no less for his musical taste, than for comic powers.

The dance was resumed after Supper, and slackened not till 3 o'clock, most of the Amateurs of Vestris' Art having alertly obeyed the first command of the Ladies: but it being the custom of the country, and an Irishman's privilege on such a day, although "he love all that is lovely" some of old Erin's choicest Sons ("small blame to their gallantry") could not be moved from the veritable Pottsbeen but kept it up till.

"Sheila's day in the morning."

1st Toast.—The Glorious and Immortal memory of Saint Patrick.

Tune.—Saint Patrick's Day. Song by Mr. Henry. Saint Patrick was a Gentleman and He came from dasant People.

2d Toast.—The Emerald Isle.

Tune.—The Exile of Erin. Song by Capt. Walton. Strike the Harp.

3d Toast.—The King God bless him.

Tune.—God save the King. Song by Capt. Walton. The Chapter of Kings.

4th Toast.—The Ladies who have honoured us this evening with their Company.

Tune.—Here is a health to all good Lasses. Song by Mr. Henry. Young Larkin Var.

5th Toast.—By Mr. Sawers

To the Sons of Hibernia who have this night given the most signal proof of their National Hospitality and Chivalrous gallantry.

This was drank with the most enthusiastic applause, and nine times nine.

Thus in the City of Kings have the Children of Caledonia and Hibernia evinced their attachment to the land which gave them birth:—and we trust that the example will not be lost on the Sons of St. George.

Artificial Bees Wax.—We have been peculiarly gratified by the sight of a singular substance, that may be appropriately named Artificial Bees Wax, with which we have been favoured, by our valuable correspondent Dr. Tytler. This substance we learn is formed by a curious and ingenious process from Vegetable Oil,—and is the invention of a Medical Gentleman, well known for his literary attainments in the Bengal Service. The inventor, we understand, was engaged for upwards of twelve months, in a course of laborious experiments, with the view of bringing this ingenious and important discovery to perfection; and has at length so fully succeeded as to form candles little inferior if at all so, to those made from ordinary wax. To Printers and others in whose offices Natives are much engaged at night work, these Artificial Wax Candles must prove a valuable acquisition,—because the inventor is enabled to dispose of them at a much cheaper rate, than is charged even for the coarsest wax candles, and no objection on the part of Natives exists as to handling them from apprehension of injuring their cast,—which prevents the general employment, and introduction of Tallow Candles in this country into Public Offices. A specimen of the Artificial Wax is for inspection at the Harkara Library, and we really feel much pleasure in calling the attention of the Public to a discovery, so curious, so novel, and so important.—Harkara.



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—717—

## Festivities at Trichinopoly.

(From the Madras Courier of April 8.)

The reader will observe that a lively Correspondent (to whom we take this opportunity of profering our best thanks) from Trichinopoly has favored us with an admirable description of the gay doings and splendid festivities which celebrated the residence at that elegant station of His Highness the Nabob of the Carnatic. For fashionable Society, Trichinopoly has long been considered the Bath of the South of India, and the accounts which are given this day of the reception of his Highness the Nabob are calculated to enhance the character which this Station has already obtained. We beg leave to complete our report of the recent festivities by publishing heads of the speech of the Gentleman at the head of the Society there, on the occasion of an entertainment given by the Nabob. Mr. Grant, commenced nearly as follows.

Gentlemen, I gave your attention to a toast, which I am quite satisfied will be received with the respect and consideration that are so eminently due to the illustrious individual who is the object of it. Gentlemen, we are now assembled in the Palace of his Highness the Nawaub of the Carnatic—Under the hospital roof of the descendant of a long line of illustrious ancestors, the ancient allies, and proud friends of the British nation!! His Highness the Nawaub, our illustrious host, cherishing in pristine warmth, the friendly feelings of his illustrious ancestors, has this evening, in the most gracious and condescending manner, assembled us around his august person, upon a footing of great cordiality and extreme kindness! His Highness, in the pure spirit of innate goodness, has thus evinced to us by an act of social courtesy, an amiable, and polite condescension, true, and genuine characteristic of an exalted and noble mind! Such Princely affability, Gentlemen, on the part of his Highness, cannot fail, I am sure, to be deeply felt and duly appreciated. It must be necessarily in a high degree gratifying to the feelings of the present Company, who have been honoured in so peculiar a manner, by the distinguished consideration, and kind condescension of his Highness.

I therefore propose, as a mark of the respect which we must all entertain towards his Highness, that we drink a Bumper\* to the health of his Highness the Nawaub of the Carnatic; expressive of our hope and wish, that the dynasty of his Highness, may continue to prosper—and that it may be perpetuated, in the person of his Highness, so long as the Sun, and Moon, shall endure.

\* With three times three.

(LETTER ABOVE REFERRED TO)

—vultus nbi tuos  
Affuset populo gratior it dies  
Et soles melius nitent.—Hon.

To the Editor of the Madras Courier.

SIR,

To tell you who have so many ways of obtaining accurate and minute information from all places of the terraqueous globe, as well as concerning several even beyond the flaming walls of Heaven, that His Highness the Nabob of the Carnatic has cheered this station with his presence since the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, would be to subject myself not only to the pity of the learned and contempt of the illustrious but to the scoffs even of the simple; yet without any disparagement to your "appliances and means to boot." I do think something may be left for me to communicate by which you may be brought under an obligation and I may be delighted to see my letter in print with the grateful thanks of the Editor for a thing so interesting. With such expectations who would not write.

What passed during the interviews of His Highness with his Heads of our society—during the preceding days—is in the secret department and mysterious—for nothing has transpired—but some whispers of a deceitful Doregah—a young tiger—and

a kneeling Begum—but on the 26<sup>th</sup> a Gentleman of the first rank—suitable to the distinguished urbanity of his manners, and his well known and universally praised hospitality, invited all the Ladies and many of the Gentlemen to a dejeuner given to His Highness in his princely mansion, which was prepared with studious care for the occasion. The Ladies attended with unwonted punctuality at the appointed hour—but less from the prompting of an amiable curiosity—than an intention to put His Highness's gallantry to the proof.—They waited for him only an hour and a half!!!

The attention of the company which had risen to receive him with due honor, was suddenly and rather disagreeably withdrawn from the exalted personage by a fracas, occasioned by the Peons in attendance endeavouring to prevent the intrusion of an insane demi-nud—but in vain—he made good his way, and we had life's grandeur and its Bloom, at once before our eyes—although he could not be forced back—he was driven forwards through the Null and out of an opposite door with obstreperous clamour.

The flurry caused by this intrusion, and extrusion being stilled—The Host and Commissioner supported His Highness to the breakfast tables, furnished with all that nature, art and taste could combine into a luxurious banquet. The expense and pains bestowed in providing and arranging the feast were not least—many a beard began to wag and every eye to glow with delight o'er the viands. With a delicate regard to His Highness's nicer feelings, and in proof of the exquisite tact of the entertainer, it being found that the swing of the Punkahs would not agitate the air where the Nabob sat, the rope was removed that he might not see his inferiors enjoying a luxury denied to himself, and they not only were ashamed to complain of a temperature which they saw him bear with exemplary composure, but turned it into an amusement.—Gad quoth P—there is no want of stews at breakfast—Stews resorted—H—wiping his face—if we may speculate from the scene before us—in an hour more, we shall be left nothing but crust—a glass of water Boy—cold water—Look said Mrs. G—only look! how! and what! those back beards and grey—eat.—During the short pause at table after satiety—It seems to me said Mrs. V. that these rude fellows—now that they find time to look about them, admire our jewels more than our faces.—The sex ought to take the hint said J, and either relinquish their trinkets so much calculated to mislead the eye from its natural objects—or learn to forgive a squint.

His Highness was now conducted through all the apartments of the house, the owner acting cicerone—and well the part became him—The airy rooms, their appurtenances—The large and convenient bath—nine feet deep—full of emerald water—in short the whole suited for the residence of an independant Prince—the view of rice grounds bounded by hills in the distance and studded with villages and groves, the adjoining tank and meandering canal which twisted like a snake from the Cauvery close up to the house and then bent away on the right—through the cantonment dragging its slow length along—presenting a variety of prospects seldom equalled and never surpassed.

In the evening his Highness gave a dinner to the Civilians, Military Staff and Captains—The dishes were mixed to suit the Company part English and part Mahomedan. When the cloth was removed, the first guest by permission gave the health of his Highness the Nabob of the Carnatic, premising it by a speech of lofty panegyric on his ancestors, eulogising their long and faithful attachment to the British nation—and concluding in a strain of oriental hyperbole by wishing the present Nabob's reign to equal in duration and splendour the sun and moon, but exempt from the obscurations incident to the lesser luminary?

The Commissioner in returning the compliment, gave the health and prosperity of the Society of Trichinopoly—but just as he began the band struck up—yet unsaddened he strove to make himself heard and spoke on—unheard.—The speech ended—The band stopt—and again the Commissioner rose and speaking without the accompaniment—spoke not in vain—a concise and appropriate speech—Bumpers, and three times three, did due honors on both sides.—After dinner the company adjourned.

ed from the vaulted colonnade to the open square of Piazza of the part of the palace which had been repaired for his Highness's visit—to enjoy a Nautch the Hindoo dancing girls began—and aimed with but little success at European quadrilles—while an old white-headed buffoon amused us with his antics.—The Company was entertained amidst the ruins of a vast building and the whole scene was calculated to raise melancholy reflections on the instability of human grandeur and to show that its tinsel is clung to, when all its importance is gone.

The crowd of spectators shut out the pure air while the smoke of innumerable torches still farther vitiated the air breathed back from myriads of human lungs.—The Hindoo girls, retired and a set of Mussulmany ones came on the carpet—and after a few hours the guests being drenched in perspiration and nearly suffocated, received their departing garlands, nothing loath and escaped—some casting off their coats before they had left the presence Court. How oft has man cause to exclaim—O life thy enjoyments give no joy!—for their aim is not pleasure but the gratification of vanity which is liable to mortifications innumerable and constant disappointment.

Trichinopoly, Easter Week, 1823.

### Melancholy Case of Hydrophobia.

To the Editor of John Bull.

Sir,

As an unsuccessful case is often no less useful to throw light on the nature of diseases than a successful one, I think it unnecessary to make much apology, for laying before your readers, the following account of a melancholy instance of Hydrophobia.

On the 24 of the present Month, a Sipahce was brought in a Hackery to my door, labouring under the extreme stage of this horrid malady: His symptoms were, in many respects, so similar to those of the Behestie, whose case of Hydrophobia was successfully treated by Dr. Shoobred, May 5, 1812, that it is difficult to describe the appearance of the Sipahce, otherwise than in the words of that physician: "His body, arms, and throat, were affected with constant and uncontrollable spasmodic startings." The muscles of his face were thrown into quick convulsive action at each inspiration, drawing back the angles of the mouth, and at the same instant depressing the lower jaw, so as to communicate the most hideous expression to the countenance. His eyes were rolling about, as if they followed some ideal object of terror, from which he apprehended immediate danger. They did not, however, exhibit any appearance of being blood shot, as in the Behestie's case. His mouth appeared to be constantly filled with a very viscid saliva, but this instead of flowing from his mouth, as in the quoted case, was expelled in thick patches, by a strong effect, at every interval of two or three minutes. "His respiration was exceedingly hurried, and might more properly be called panting than breathing. He was exceedingly impatient of restraint," but the part to which he pointed; as "the seat of some undesirable uneasiness," was not, "his stomach" but the lower part of his throat, just above the upper edge of the sternum. This he often forcibly grasped with his fingers, and described as being closed. His pulse was full and strong, but not particularly quick, and during the short time in which I delayed to fill it, was perfectly regular. In Dr. S.'s case, it appears to have been, "very unequal, both in strength and frequency." I did not observe any peculiarity in the state of the skin. His conversation was that of a man falling into delirium, but not as yet entirely divested of reason; when strongly questioned, he returned a short, sensible answer, but when left to himself, he would begin a connected sentence, on his present condition, from which he would suddenly start off to incoherent ravings, and from thence, as if with a strong mental effort, return to his original subject, and then again fall off to delirium. His Wife accompanied him, with a Lota of Water, and this he made constant efforts to swallow, by dipping in it a piece of folded rag, which he then pushed with his fingers, as far down his throat as possible, and squeezed out the drops, so that they might, as it were, mechanically fall down the Oesophagus; this appeared to be accomplished with great distress. The account I received from his wife was, that while on a march, about three months before, he had been bitten by a strange dog, in the leg, and that nine days ago, he had begun to be affected with his present symptoms, which had gone on gradually to increase. The nature of the complaint appearing too plainly, to render necessary a very protracted examination, I delayed no longer to make observations, than the time till the remedies could be prepared, and in the first place, directed him to swallow ten grains of calomel and a pill of jalapogowa. This I did, both with a view to their possible sanative effects, and also to ascertain, how far his power of deglutition actually extended. He broke the pills between his teeth, and then at-

tempted to swallow them, by help of a little water, introduced into his mouth, by the rag as described above. He was not able to accomplish this, but was obliged, after considerable efforts, to spit out the pills, involved in a patch of the viscid saliva, seeing this, I delayed no longer to have recourse to bleeding. It happened, that his brachial veins, were uncommonly small and deep seated, and I opened a vessel, first in the right arm, and then in the right leg without being able to get so copious a stream of blood, as I wished; at last, after putting a tape round the left arm, with a good deal of difficulty, from the extreme agitation of the patient, I made such an orifice, in a branch of the venor plescus there, as to allow the blood to flow *pleuro-rico*. He started so much, and was so much agitated during the whole of the operation, that it was quite impossible, to keep an exact account of the quantity taken away, but it could not have been less than 35 dachms, and was probably considerably more. It was now evident that he was greatly reduced; his pulse began to flutter, he could scarcely support himself sitting, and he declared that he knew I was taking away his life by the bleeding; but that he did not care, though I bid. It gives me much pain to be obliged to state, that in the symptoms of his disease, which appeared no alteration whatever. He still expressed the same uneasiness in his throat, ejected the same patches of viscid saliva, uttered the same incoherent language, and appeared to labour under the same degree of mental agitation. In these circumstances, I could not think myself justified, in continuing the unlimited use of a remedy, which appeared to have so little power over the disease, and therefore bound up the arm. I directed ten grains of Calomel, and a pill of jalapogowa to be again offered. After much difficulty, he seemed to have swallowed them. I then directed him to attempt to drink a little water. He put the Lota to his mouth, and took in a small quantity, which he kept there for a few seconds, during which, his countenance appeared strongly convulsed, then again ejected the water, and flung away the Lota, violently with a look of horror, which I shall hardly ever forget. He had risen up to do this, but was standing unsteadily from weakness.

It will be recollected, that in Dr. Shoobred's case, "By the time, sixteen or twenty ounces of blood had flowed, the spasmodic startings of his arms, body, and neck had considerably diminished, his breathing had become more calm, with less contortion of countenance, and he audibly acknowledged that the pain about the precordia and region of the stomach, was upon the decline." But in the above unfortunate case, the loss of, perhaps, double that quantity, although it had greatly reduced the patient's strength, had not in the least diminished, any of the hydrophobic symptoms.

Respecting his own patient, Dr. Shoobred adds: "It is worthy of remark also, that during the bleeding, he made signs to have himself fanned, a thing I never knew a patient in hydrophobia do before,—his distress being so uniformly increased by any current of air blowing upon them, that, according to all my experience, the dread of air in motion is as constant an attendant on the disease as the dread of water itself." As if in direct contradiction to this testimony of the efficacy of the remedy, the above Sipahce, whilst the blood was flowing from his arm, complained bitterly of the west wind, which was blowing upon him.

It may readily be guessed, that the remainder of this case will occupy but few words. Immediately after the operation, I was obliged to attend another medical engagement, that was indispensable. I therefore committed this man to the care of the Native Doctor; with directions, to report his condition every now and then; and finding no amendment was taking place, either from the bleeding, or the pills, I desired that a number of leeches should be applied to his neck, till I should be able to see him again, but they could scarcely be got ready when he died, before I could see him, in a state (I was informed) of the most horrible spasms, having lived about nine hours from the time he was brought to me.

It is however right to observe, that the above case forms no sufficient testimony against the efficacy of early bleeding in this melancholy disease. Dr. Shoobred's patient, appears to have been attacked by Hydrophobia no more than 24 hours before trial of the remedy, whilst on the other hand, this Sipahce, by the account of his companions, had laboured under the malady for nine days previously. Allowing for Native inaccuracy and exaggeration, this will still leave room for a long duration to his symptoms.

I am, Sir, Your very obedient Servant,

March 31, 1823.

### HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA, THIS DAY.

	H.	M.
Morning.....	0	35
Evening.....	0	54



Tuesday, April 23, 1823

—719—

**Dr. Tytler on Aerolites.***To the Editor of the Bengal Hurkaru.*

Sir,

In noticing the letter of your correspondent QUERY, it is necessary to correct an inadvertence into which he falls at the outset, where he designates the "Aerolites found at Futtehpore as forwarded by Mr. Nisbett to him (myself) at Allahabad." But of the stones deposited in the Hurkaru Library, one specimen only was forwarded to me by Mr. Nisbett. Another fragment, which that Gentleman at a later period had had the politeness to transmit, is in the possession of my Brother at Monghyr; and the remaining specimens, as noted on the papers attached to the stones, were procured from the *Dak* officers, as I happened to be the Post Master of Allahabad, at the time the stones descended near Futtehpore. One fragment of small size, which I saw in Mr. Crocroft's possession, was presented to him by a Native into whose garden it fell. All the specimens wherever they have been picked up, decidedly coincide in composition; and it is therefore proper to notice the error, trivial as it may seem, because the connection not only identifies the origin of the Aerolites, but proves the remarkable fact stated in one of Mr. Nisbett's letters, that a number of stones were ejected from the Meteor at the moment of its explosion. It has been discovered since the Aerolites were deposited in the Hurkaru Library, that three of the pieces are capable of being united so as to form a whole stone. Two complete masses are thus open for public inspection, which show that the Meteor, similar to a Shrapnell's shell, contained a number of bodies distinct from each other, and yet exactly of the same composition.

Your Correspondent broadly assumes, that "he cannot for a moment think they came from Java, until some more satisfactory arguments are produced in their favor, than the vague and unsatisfactory ones of Dr. Tytler." He does not however deny the stones to be of *telluric* and *Volcanic* origin, for he says—"The stones deposited in the Hurkaru Library bear evident marks of the action of fire." "I agree with Dr. Tytler that all the phenomena connected with the fall of the Aerolites are volcanic,"—and "Stones of a similar description, as nearly as I can recollect from a casual inspection, have been thrown from Vesuvius." The major part of the difficulty respecting the origin of these Meteoric stones is thus completely removed, for by admitting that "all the phenomena connected with the fall of the Aerolites are volcanic,"—and that "stones of a similar description have been thrown from Vesuvius," your correspondent evidently admits the idea of La Place, that they have been ejected from Volcanoes in the moon, and of Brewster, that they are fragments of the Asteroids, of Pallas, Juno, Ceres, and Vesta, as nothing better than Philosophical dreams; i. e. absolute nonsense.

The only grounds, therefore, upon which your correspondent thinks himself justified in denouncing my arguments as "vague and unsatisfactory," are merely these: "There are many (Volcanoes) much nearer than those in Java, and some are occasionally to be seen in action, even in the Bay of Bengal." Now in reply to this, it is only necessary to observe, that when the dreadful eruption took place from the Tomboro mountain in 1815, Pumice stone was found floating in all the seas of the Archipelago, and even far to the westward of Sumatra, and consequently the neighbourhood of Volcanoes in action, such as the *Bromo* situated in the Eastern Districts of Java, and the *Merapi* in the centre of the island. Yet did it enter into the mind of any one to imagine or assert, that the Pumice stone so found, was referable to any other source than the true one, namely the tremendous Volcano which was in full eruption upon the island of Sumbawa? These observations apply strictly to the Volcanic stones which have lately fallen near Futtehpore. For at the time they descended, a terrible Volcano was raging on Java, but no proof exists of an eruption having taken place at the same time from *Seyer Island*,—or any other spot within the Bay of Bengal. By your correspondent's own shewing, the inference is accordingly inevitable, that from Java, and Java alone, those stones must have proceeded, because upon that was situated the nearest Volcano in eruption, to the spot where they fell.

It is observable, that the natives of Java affirm a Volcano bursts into action every seventh year, in some of the islands of the Eastern Archipelago, and the eruptions from the *Sumedang Hill* and *Merapi*, have occurred precisely at the septennial period from that of the Tomboro mountain, which took place in 1815. It is also deserving attention that previous to the eruption from the Java mountains; a dreadful Earthquake had occurred in Syria, and overthrown Aleppo; and other cities, and about the period of the terrible Earthquake at the *Caracas*, a tremendous Volcanic explosion suddenly took place near the *Azores*, which, in the course of a few days, threw above the surface of the ocean a new island, named *Sabirny*, and which has I believe subsequently disappeared. These facts seem to indicate that the bowels of the Earth, consist of immense cavities, of which Volcanoes are to be considered as outlets or chimneys, and we may conclude, that whenever water rushes from a cavern containing this fluid, into another enclosed

ing pyrites, a prodigious explosion will take place; and produce an Earthquake followed by a Volcanic explosion from some of the burning mountains on the surface of the Globe. Aerolites consequently correspond in composition, in whatever country they fall, because they are ejected from the pyritic beds existing within the central cavities of the Earth.

Your obedient Servant,

Calcutta, April 20, 1823

R. TYTLER.

**Throwing Stones.***To the Editor of the India Gazette.*

MY DEAR SIR,

Mine is a very hard case, and every body will allow it is so, on hearing what I have to say.

I am a young man, of a pretty decent fortune, and living on the interest of it. I do nothing—i. e. I do not work for my bread.

Some boys (who I believe are more fond of fun than they are malicious,) as they pass my room, throw stones, and break my doors and windows. This is very improper conduct, and I trust this exposure will be sufficient to make them desist from their fun. I have also to tell you that I am known to them by the name of

MAD BURT.

**Living in Scotland.***To the Editor of the India Gazette.*

Sir,

I received from a Friend the subjoined account of the expenses absolutely necessary to be incurred by a small Family residing at any of the cheaper Towns of Scotland.

Perhaps you will oblige "a Weary Exile" by inserting it in your next.—Your's, &c.

Bhaugulpore, 1823.

**A BROTHER EXILE.**

House Rent and Window Tax, .....	£ 50
House keeping, foreign Wines not included, .....	150
Clothes for the Family, .....	90
Buggy and 2 Horses, .....	40
A Man Servant, .....	20
Two Women Servants, .....	20
Washing, .....	30
Subscription to Library and petty expences, ....	20
Total annual expence, .....	420

**Want of Clocks.***To the Editor of the Madras Gazette.*

Sir,

If you think fit, the insertion of the accompanying will oblige. During a rather long residence in India most parts of which I have visited and particularly the different Presidencies, I have often remarked the great want amongst our numerous improvements, of Clocks, in our Cities and Stations of importance.—These observations particularly apply to Madras, which although our second Presidency in rank and consequence, and like the others, constantly rising in great rank, has not as yet any thing of the kind. In Calcutta, there is a fine Clock in the Steeple of the Cathedral, one in the Armenian Church, and one will I doubt not be completed at St. Andrew's, as the dials have been up for some time. All the above mentioned Clocks, are conspicuously placed, and from having loud bells can be heard at a great distance; St. Thomas's Church at Bombay is also provided with one. Madras alone, seems to be behind hand in so useful an addition to public convenience. St. George's Church appears to have a stage especially meant for Clock dials, at present occupied by circular apertures with shutters which have a mean appearance. The Signal tower in the Port also, seems an excellent place for a similar appendage which would be highly useful in regulating the duties of the Garrison and from its particular and frequented situation of great convenience to the public at large.—In the Vepery quarter, one would also be desirable, but the only building which would be appropriate for the purpose unluckily is so constructed that that is no convenient disposable space.—The Steeple indeed, does not seem intended for anything of that nature. I believe I should not be the only person glad to see the establishment of Clocks more general in this country, as for want of them, the time is in general miserably regulated, particularly at Military stations, where perhaps the ghorries are only correct at Evening gun fire.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

Madras, 2d April, 1823.

OBSERVATOR.

## Written of the Island of Cumbræ.

'Tis sad to hear the breeze moan,  
And sad the green waves plaintive roar,  
And sad to sit and muse alone  
On health-clad Cumbræ's distant shore.  
Yet sadder to my pensive soul,  
Her absence whom I still adore;  
That dwells far o'er the waves that roll,  
Round Cumbræ's rock-embattl'd shore.  
In vain O Isle! thy wild flowers smile,  
Thy hills with heath empurpl'd o'er;  
To him whose fancy all the while  
Roves far from Cumbræ's storm-beat shore.  
Not Bute fair smiling from the flood,  
Not Arran's mountains tow'ring hoar,  
Can charm his fancy's mournful mood,  
Nor Cumbræ's lone romantic shore.  
The Ghosts shriek on their bills of mist,  
To sea-fowl screams the billows o'er;  
And I deplore my fate unblest,  
On Cumbræ's lone sequester'd shore.  
Rude are thy rocks than heath-clad Isle,  
And scanty nature's fruitful store;  
Yet with my love could ages smile,  
Even on thy lonely rugged shore.  
Propitious winds waft o'er the main,  
Thy frame whose soul has gone before;  
Oh! let me clasp her once again,  
That dwells far from Cumbræ's shore—*India Gazette.*

## Question.

Why is the Gardener the most extraordinary man in the world?

Because no man has more business upon earth, and always chooses good grounds for what he does. He commands his thyme, he is master of his mint; and fingers penny royal. He raised his celery every year; and it is a bad year indeed if it does not produce a plim. He meets with more boughs than a minister of state. He makes more beds than an Ion keeper, and has in them more painted ladies, and more genuine roses and lilies, than are to be found at a country wake. He makes raking his business more than his diversion, as many other gentlemen do, but he makes it an advantage to his health and fortune, which few others do. His wife has nevertheless, enough of "lad's lore," and "heart's-ease." He can boast of more "bleeding hearts" than any town toast, and more laurel than the Duke of Wellington; but his greatest pride, and the world's envy, is, that he can have *Yew* whenever he pleases.

YEW TREE.

## Shipping Arrivals.

## MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
April 5	Lion	British	T. W. Stunt	Colombo	Mar. 9
6	Ajax	British	W. Gillet	Cape	Jan. 27

## Shipping Departures.

## CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
April 20	Francis Charlotte	British	P. Johnson	China

## MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
April 6	David Scott	British	G. Bunyan	London

## Stations of Vessels in the River

## CALCUTTA, APRIL 20, 1823.

At Diamond Harbour.—VIRGINIA, and ZELI, (F.), outward-bound; remain.—CARMO, (P.), inward-bound; remains.

Kedgerie.—FRANCIS WARDEN, and HERO of MALOWN, outward-bound; remain.—RESOURCE, proceeded down.—GUIDE, (brig), outward-bound; remains.—FLOR DEL MAR, (Spanish), proceeded down.—GEORGIANA, passed down.

New Anchorage.—H. C. S. ROYAL GEORGE,—MANGLET, and CONDE do RIO PARDO, (P.), outward-bound; remain.

## Madras Subscription for Relief of the Irish.

The following Additions have been made to this Princely Fund.

Madras Subscription for Relief of the Irish.—The following additions have been made to this princely fund since our last report:—

Amount on the 17th of March, 1823, already published 75 Guineas, and Rupees, ..... 1,08,775 15 7

## Additional List from Messrs. Binny and Co.

Amount of Subscription of Rajah Narrasimma Opparow Bahder, Zamindar of Ellore, to the suffering Irish, ..... 1007 8 0  
From Major Hanson on account of Irish Subscription, "a Paddy's mite," ..... 50 0

## Additional List from Colonel Thomas Boles, Commanding Secunderabad.

Secunderabad Cantonment.	Hyderabad Rupees.
W. Peyton, Esq. ....	100 0 9
J. Morton, Esq. ....	50 0 0
Mr. J. Daley, ....	200 0 0
Mr. A. Turnbull, ....	50 0 0
Mr. E. Le Cot, ....	50 0 0
Mr. W. Gore, (Junior), ....	20 0 0
Romanjee, (Parsee) ....	20 0 0
Lieut. Charles Holroyd, R. N. ....	50 0 0
J. Blythe, ....	20 0 0
Major Jackson, ....	50 0 0
Charles McCarthy, Conductor of Ordnance, ....	25 0 0
W. Gore, Deputy Assistant, Commissary ....	50 0 0
H. Fox, Ordnance Department, ....	3 0 0
R. White, ditto ditto, ....	2 0 0
J. Hagerty, ditto ditto, ....	2 0 0
N. Currie, ....	7 0 0
Serjeant J. Palmer, ....	7 0 0
Charles Prayer, ....	5 0 0
N. Bergin, Line Serjeant, ....	8 0 0
Mr. D. Connon, ....	77 0 0
Post Office Writers and Servants residing at Hyderabad, ....	54 0 0
J. S. 15th Regiment, ....	35 0 0
Lieut. J. Ralph, ....	30 0 0
Serjeant Colligan, ....	10 0 0
1 Serjeant and 13 Private of H. M. Regt. attached to the Russell Brigade, ....	14 0 0

Hyderabad Rupees, .... 930 0 0

Or at 111 Hyderabad Rupees per 100 Madras Rs. is .. 845 15 10

Total on the 7th of April 1823, 75 Guineas and Rs. 1,10,679 7 5

## Administrations to Estates.

Mr. James Wallace, late of Calcutta, Master Mariner, deceased—Mr. Michael Meyers, of Durruntollah.

Mr. George Wilkinson, late second Officer on board the Ship EXMOUTH, deceased—James Weir Hogg, Esq.

Mr. George Lee, late of Jungypore, deceased—James Weir Hogg, Esq.

Mr. William Dennis, late a Quarter-Master in His Majesty's twenty-fourth Regiment of Light Dragoons, deceased—James Weir Hogg, Esq.

Mrs. Johanna Bottelbo, late of Calcutta, Widow, deceased—Mr. William Davis.

## Marriages.

On the 19th instant, at the Roman Catholic Church, Mr. CHARLES EGAN, to Miss MARY WILLIAMS.

At Madras, on the 5th instant, at St. George's Church, by the Reverend W. THOMAS, HENRY BYRNE, of the Inner Temple, Barrister at Law, Esq. and of the Supreme Court Master, &c. &c. to ISABELLA SELINA, the eldest Daughter of T. H. GOODING, of Londonderry, Esq.

At Madras, on the 31st ultimo, by the Reverend W. ROY, Mr. J. H. WILLIAMSON, to Miss A. WRIGHTON, of Mrs. BALFOUR's Seminary.

## Births.

In Chowringhee, on the 10th instant, the Lady of Captain J. A. HODGSON, of a Daughter.

At Kilpauk, on the 7th instant, Mrs. CHARLES PHILIP GORDON, of a Son.